

FAIRY TAIL

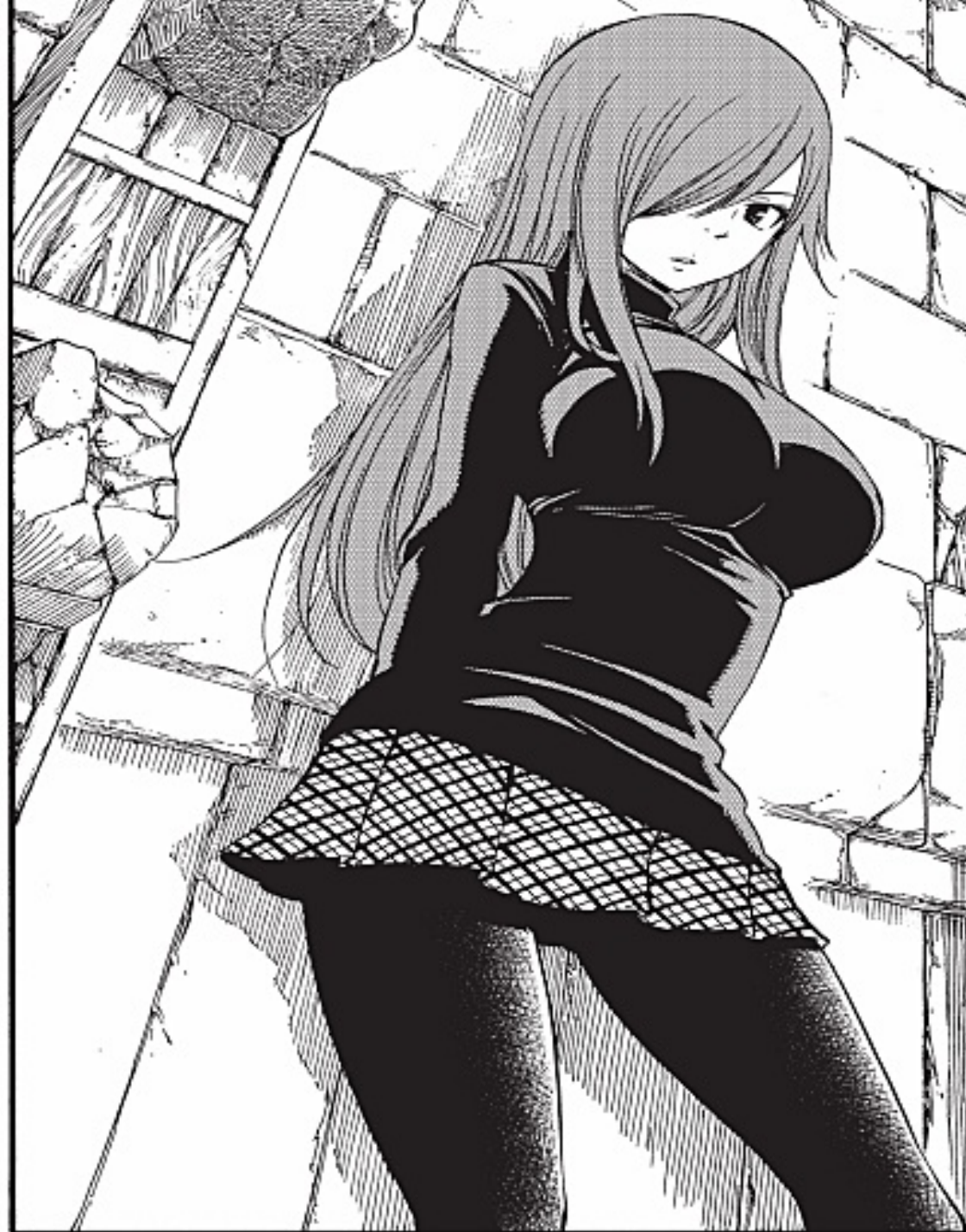
48



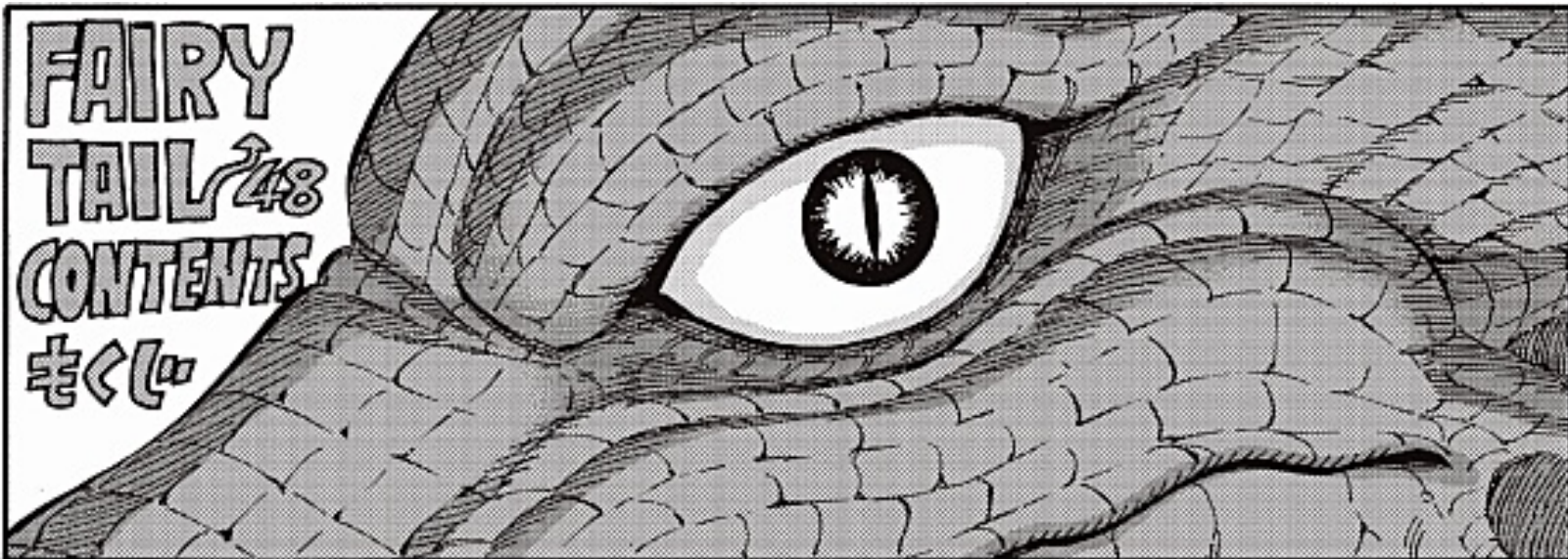
Hiro Mashima

FAIRY TAIL

48



HIRO MASHIMA



Chapter 404: 00:00 ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 3

Chapter 405: Tartaros Arc, Part Six: Magna Carta ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 23

Chapter 406: The Girl in the Crystal ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 43

Chapter 407: To Destroy My Very Body ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 67

Chapter 408: The Definitive Demon ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 87

Chapter 409: Thread of White and Black ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 107

Chapter 410: Memento Mori ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 127

Chapter 411: To Respond in Kind ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 147

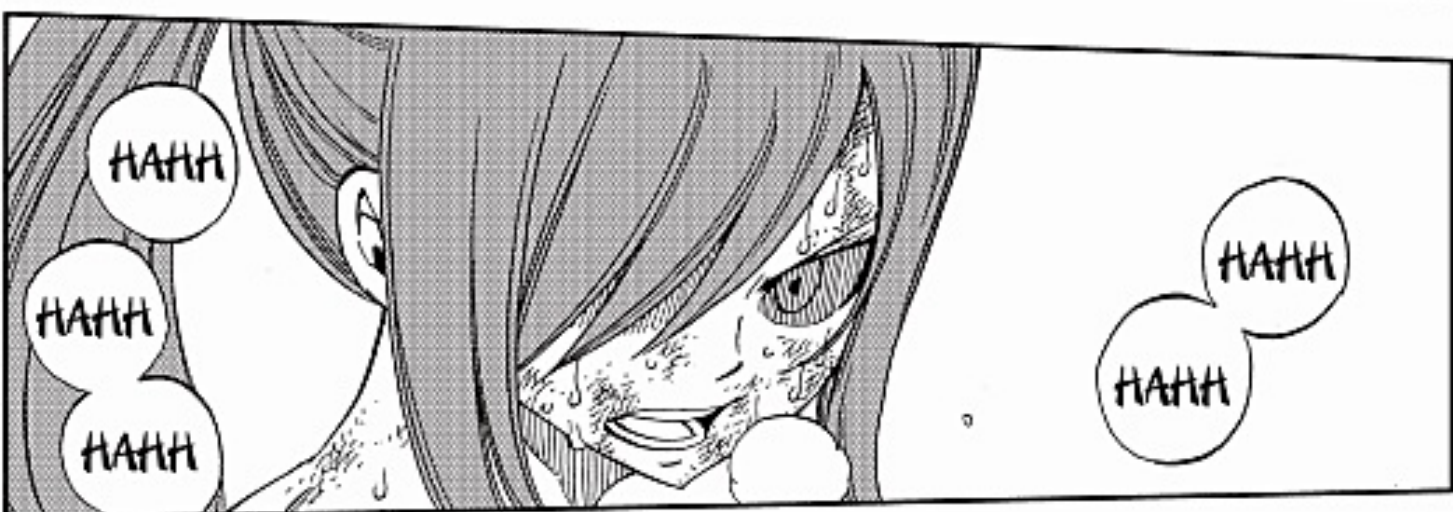
Chapter 412: Soaring in Ishgal ⇨ ⇨ ⇨ 167

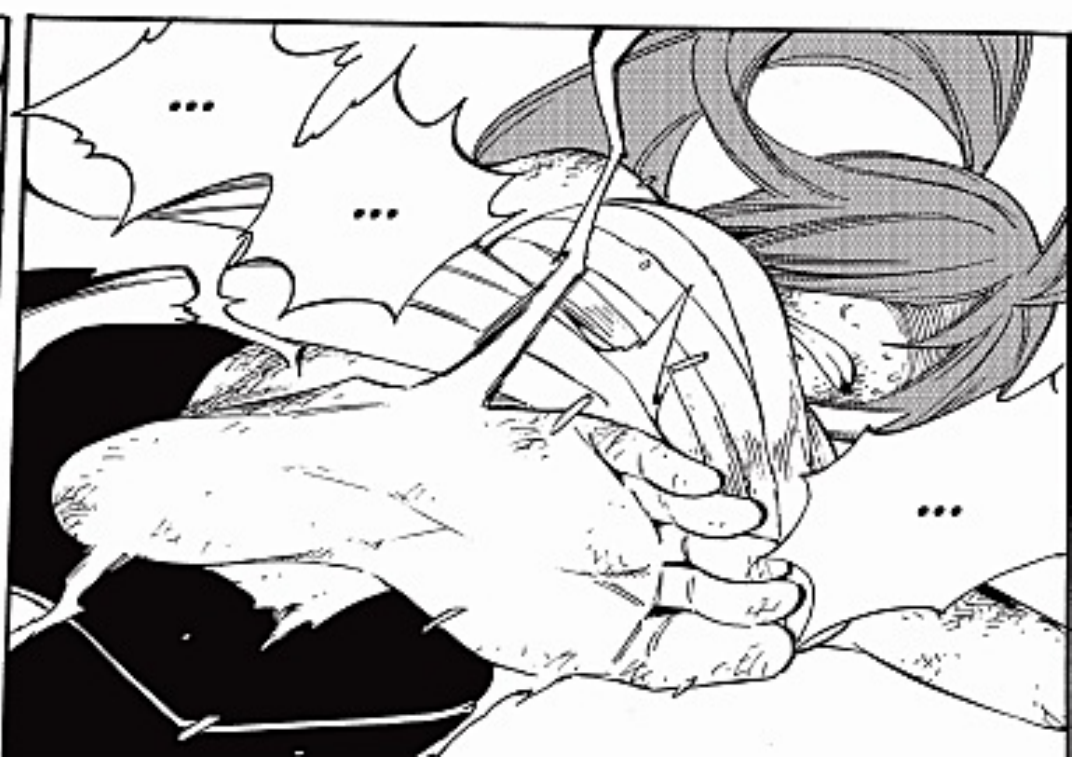
FAIRY TAIL

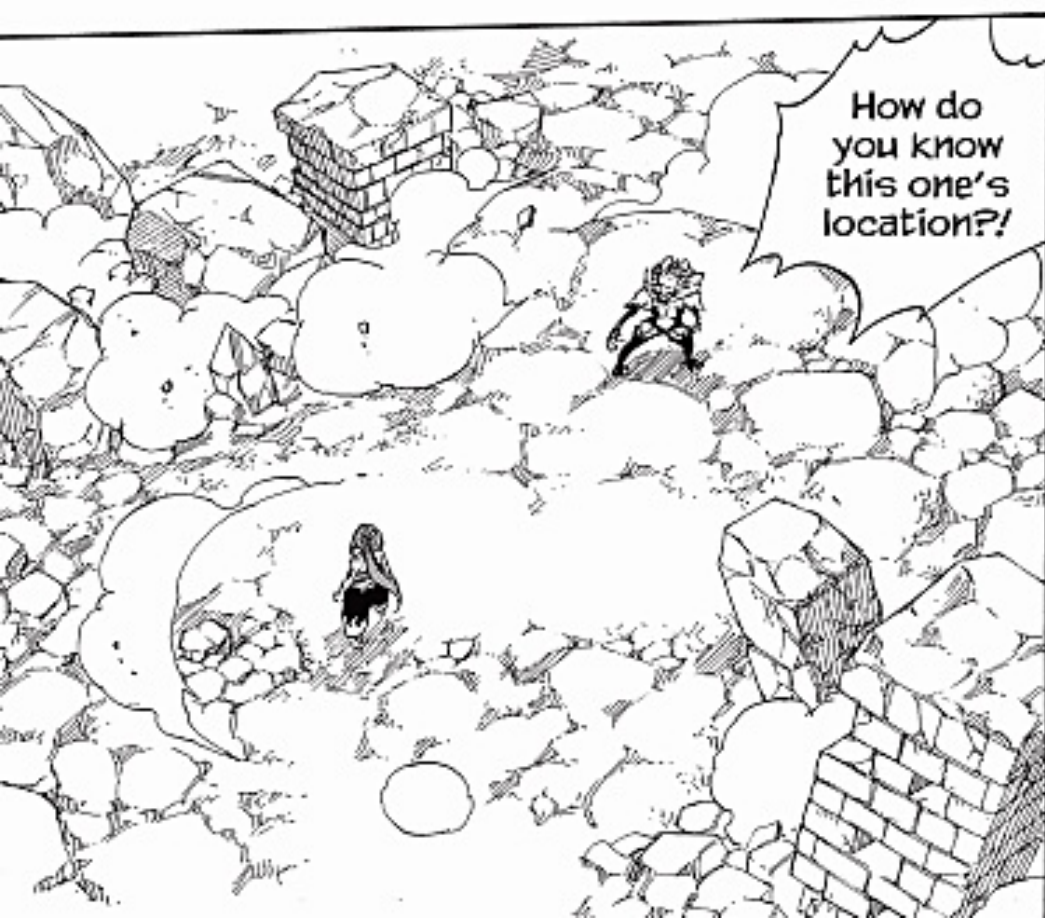
フェアリーテイル

Chapter 404: 00:00









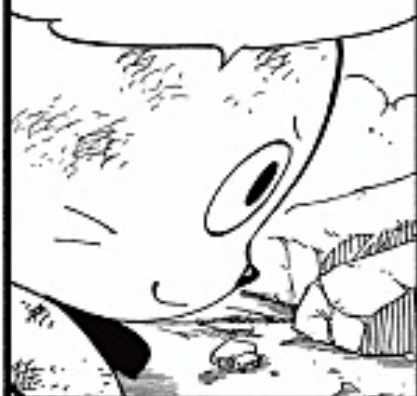
How do
you know
this one's
location?!



You should
not be able
to see this
one!!

Nor hear
this one's
voice!

But there's an even simpler explanation.



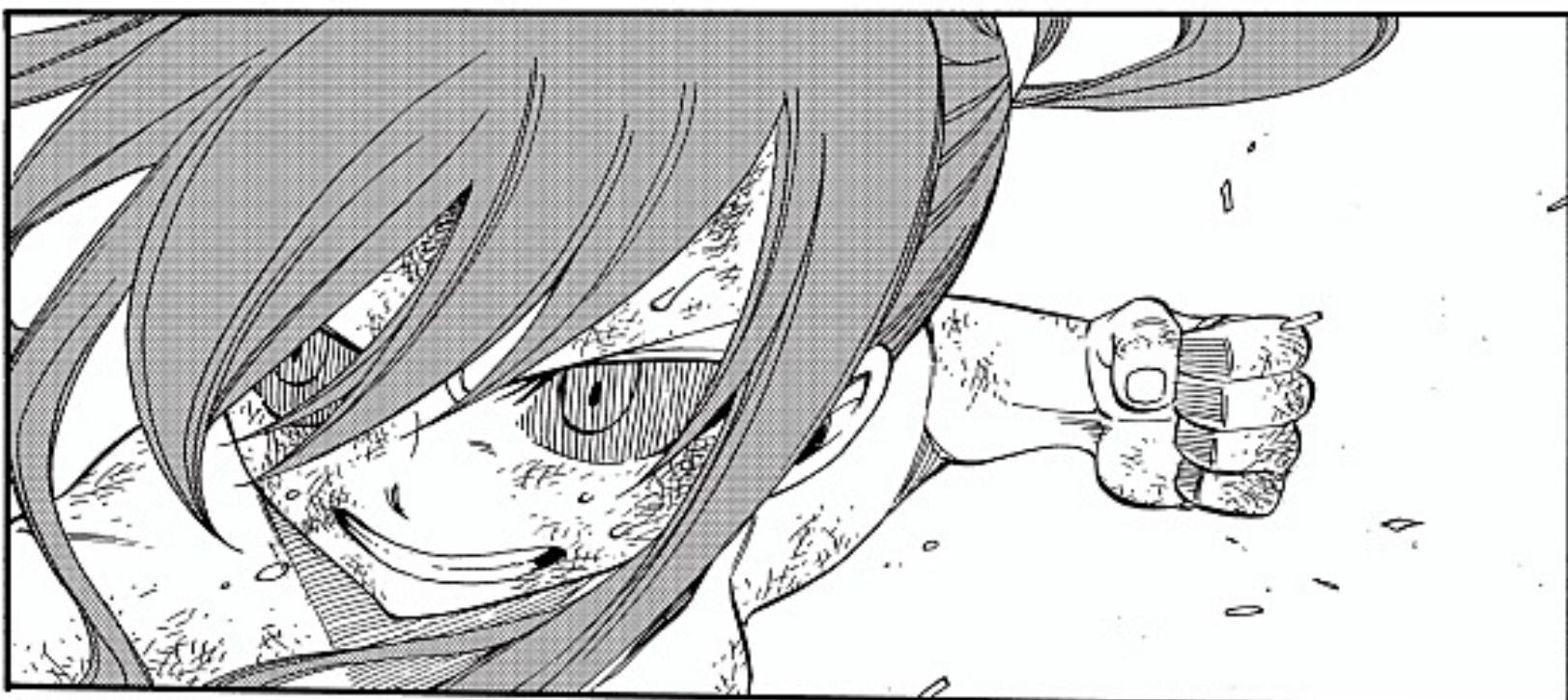
???
???



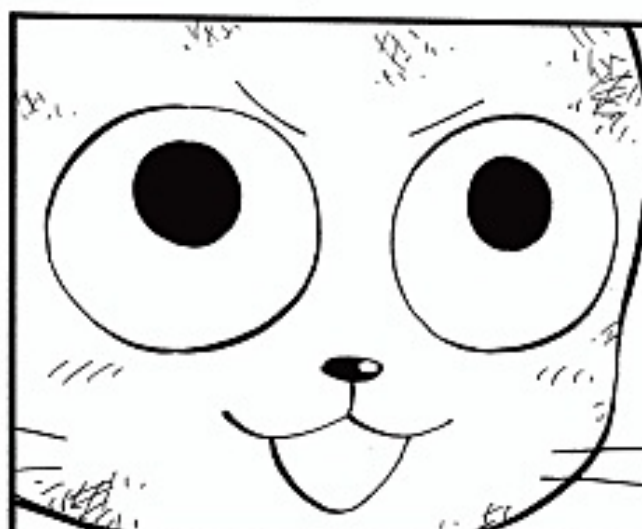
You take away somebody's senses, and they can develop other senses they never knew they had.



It must be some sixth or seventh sense.

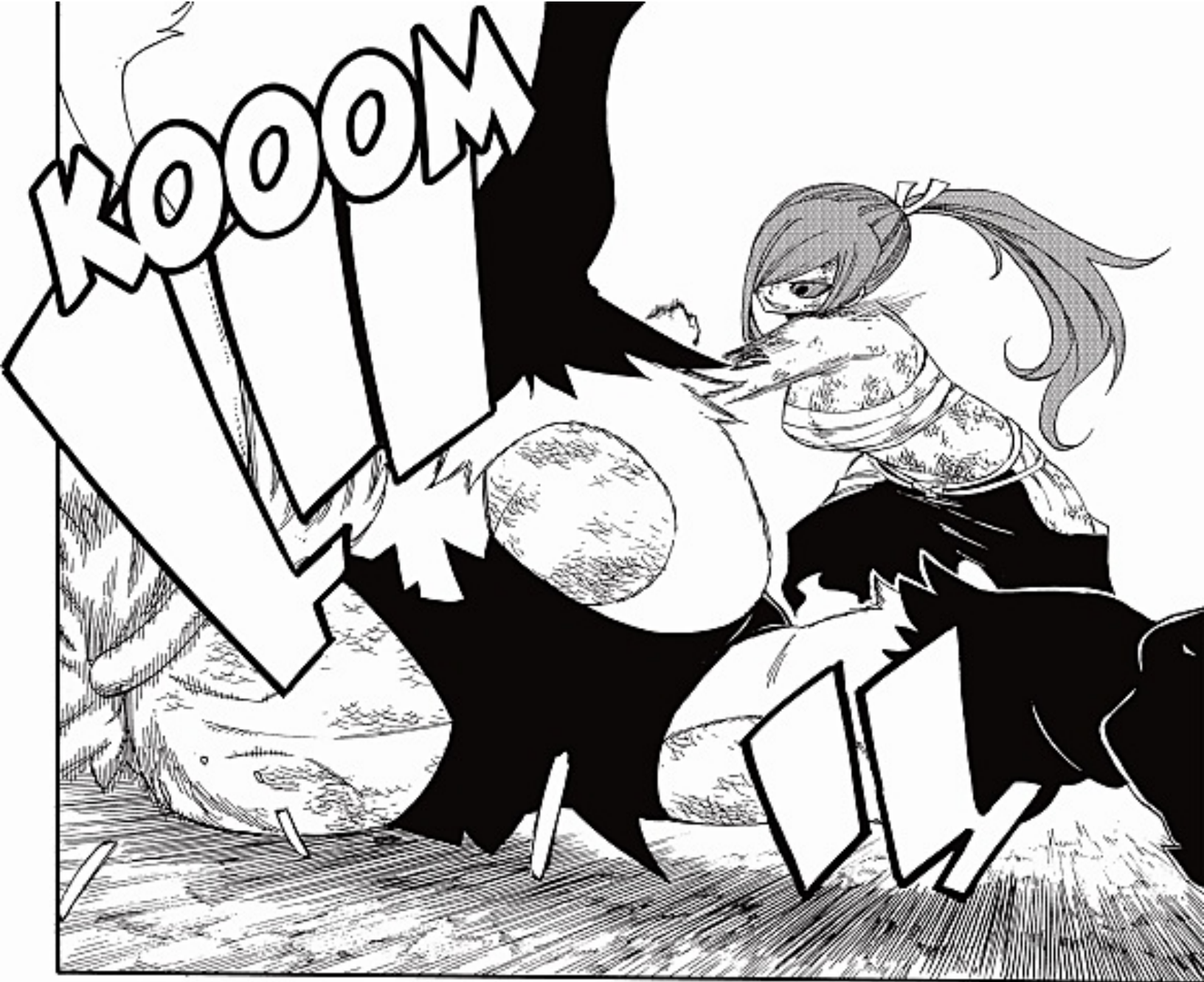


I'll buy that.



It's because she's Erza!







**Filthy
human!
You will
paaay
!!!!**

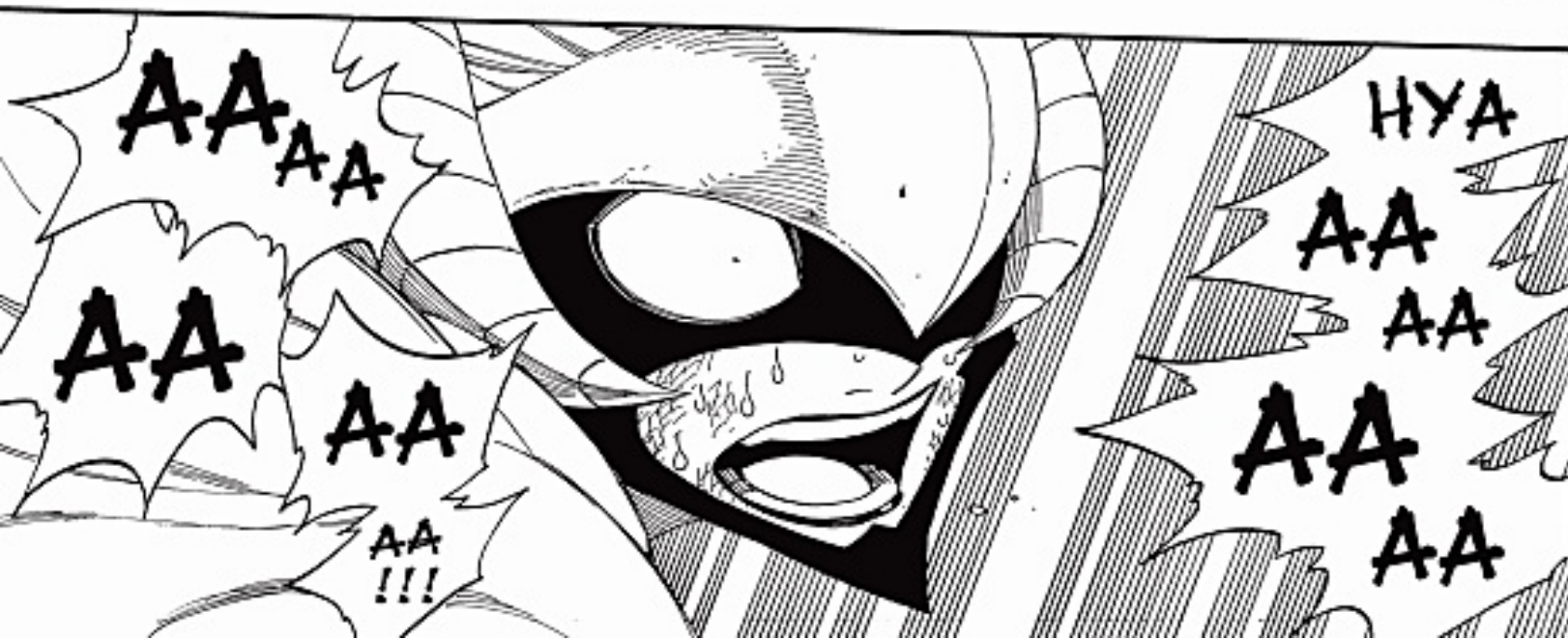


She
can't hear
you, you
know!

Erza!!
Time's
running
out...



The
time...!!!!



AA
AA

AA

AA

AA
!!!

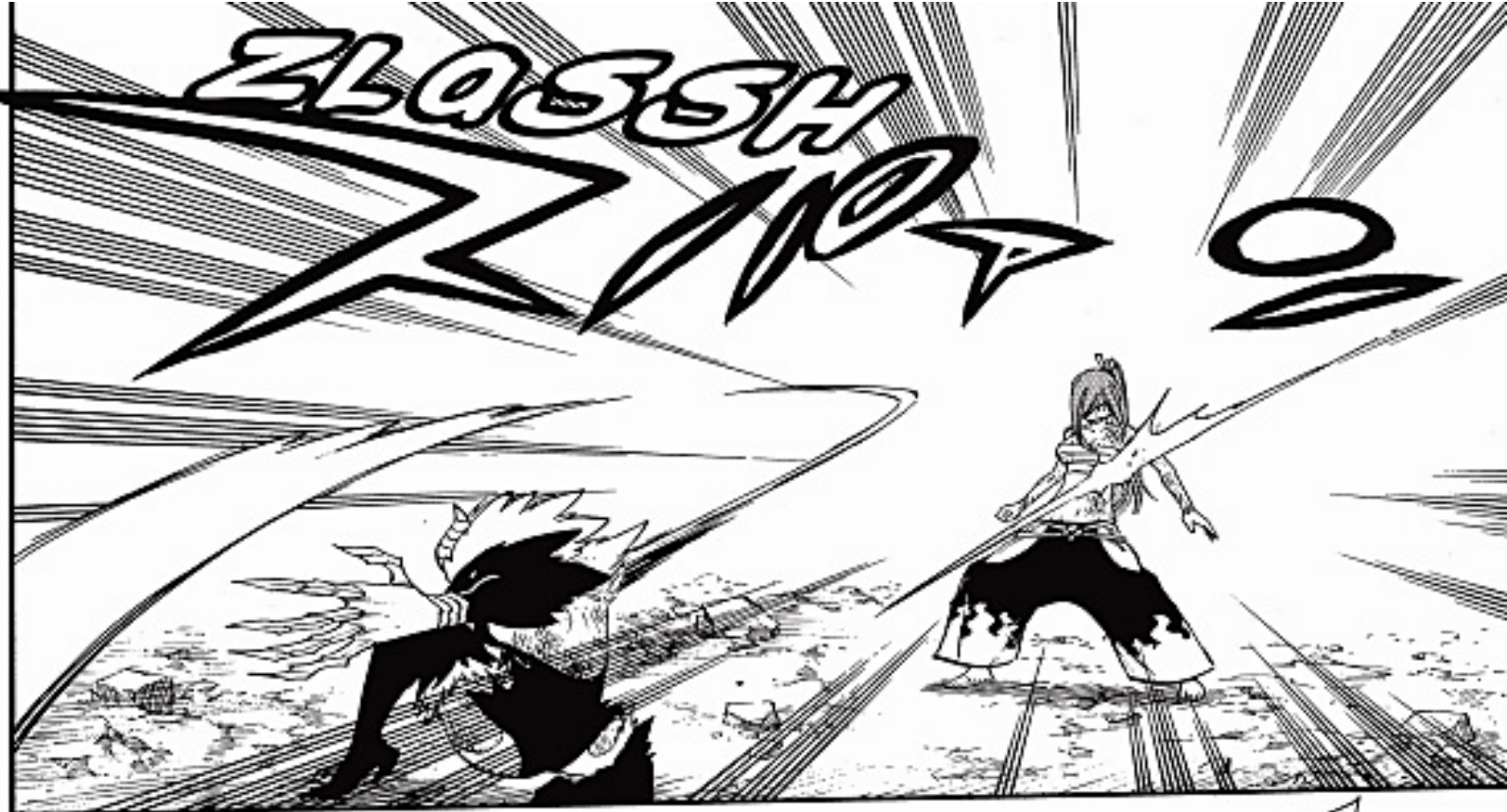
HYA

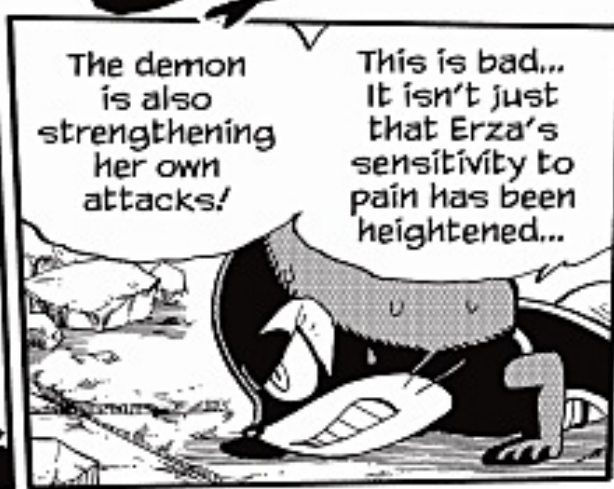
AA

AA

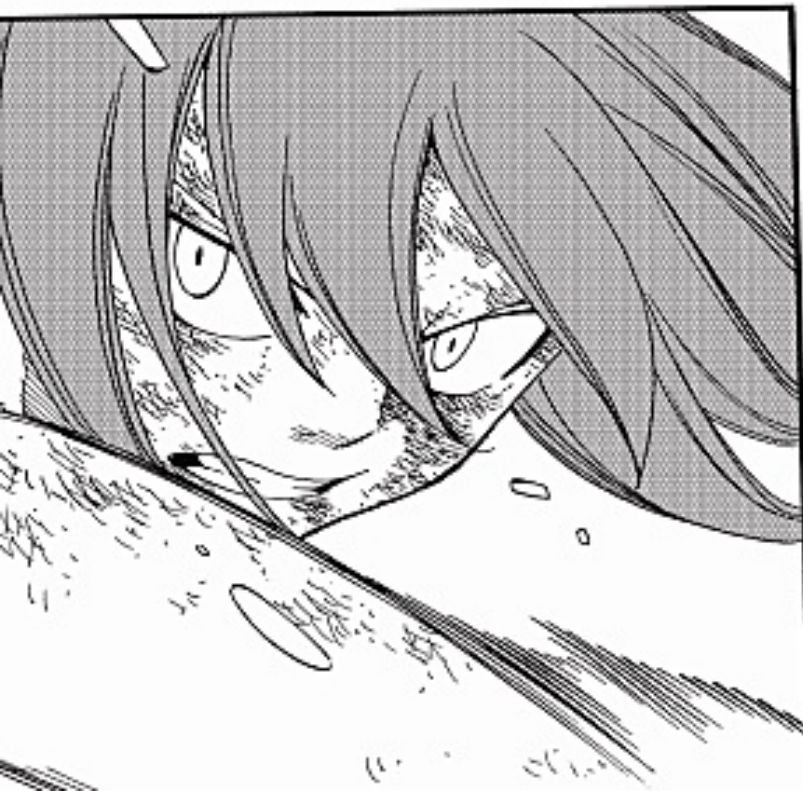
AA

AA



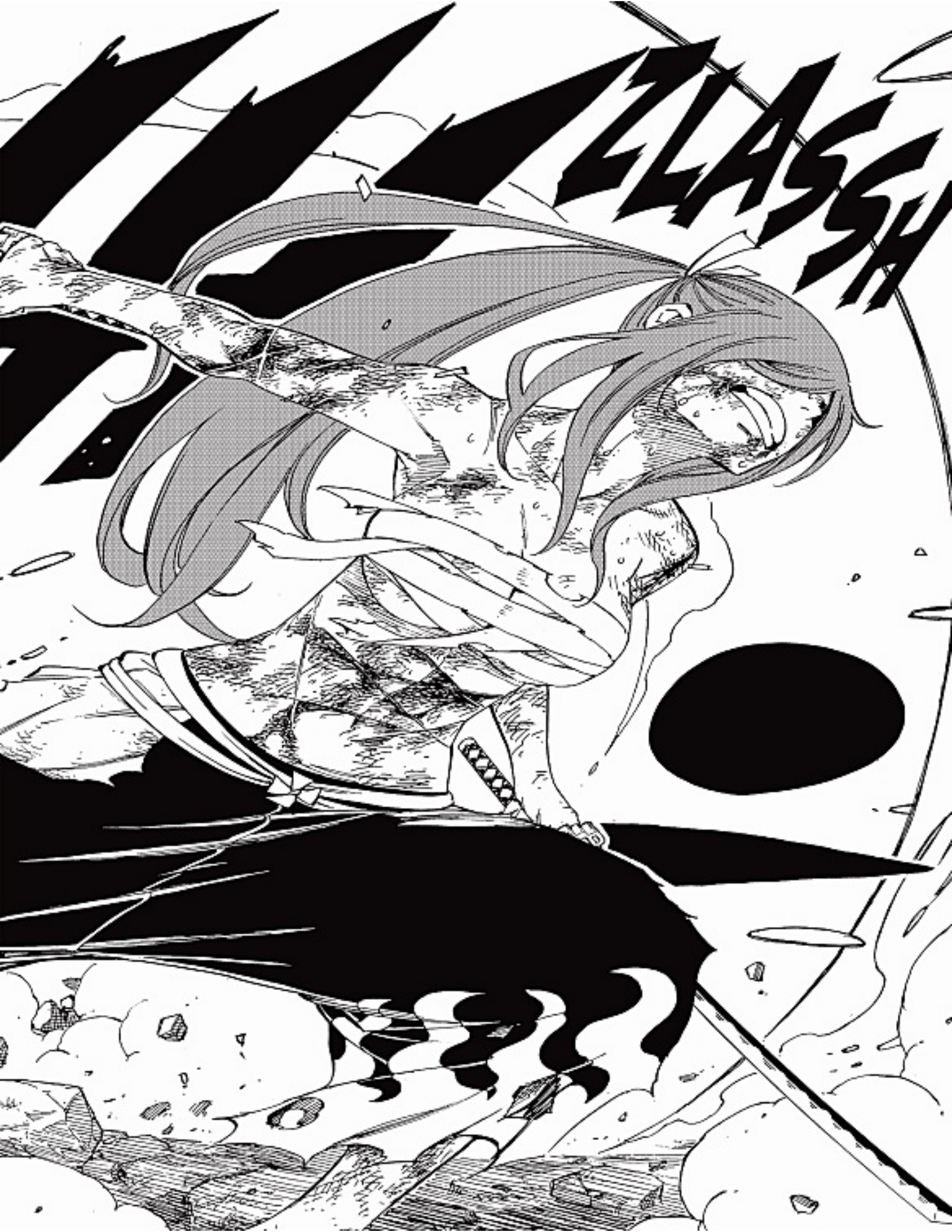


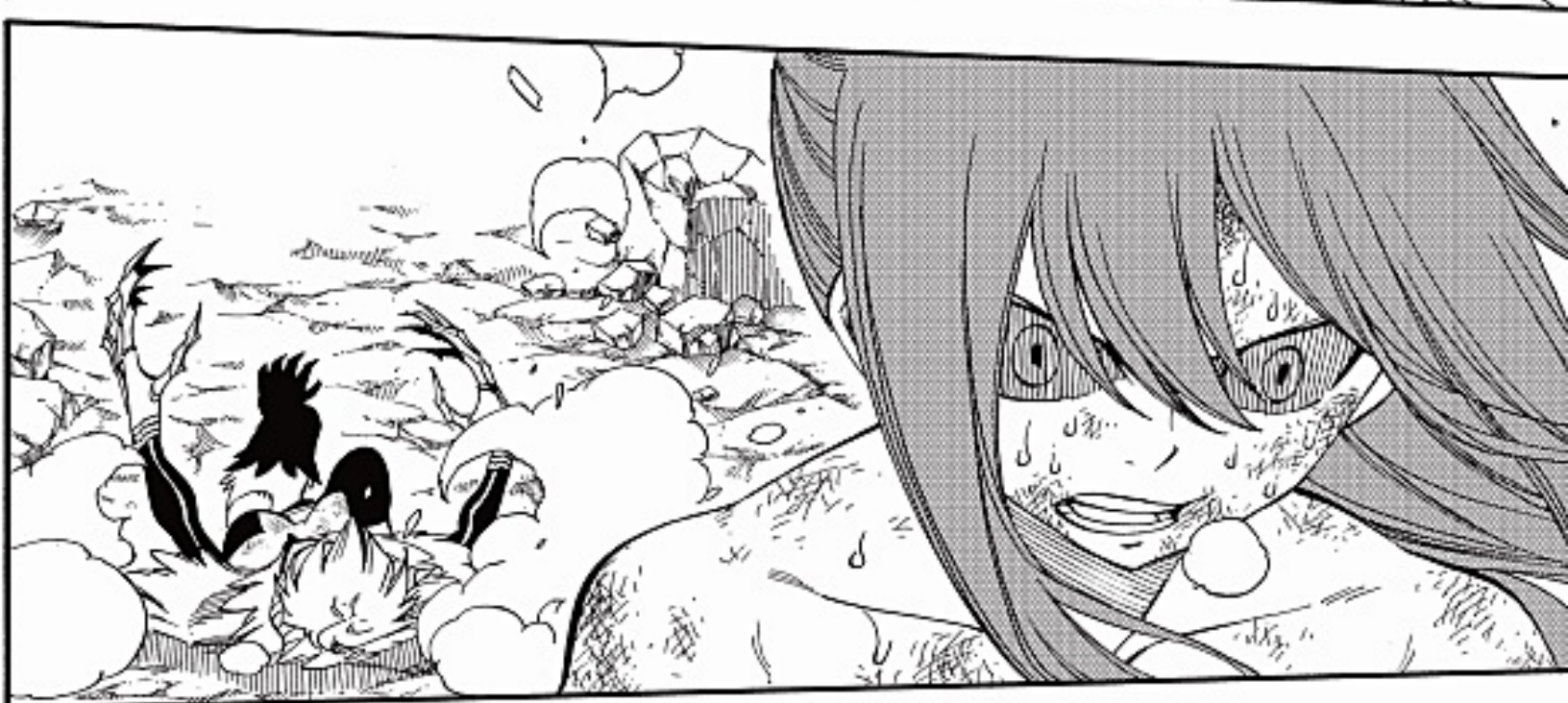


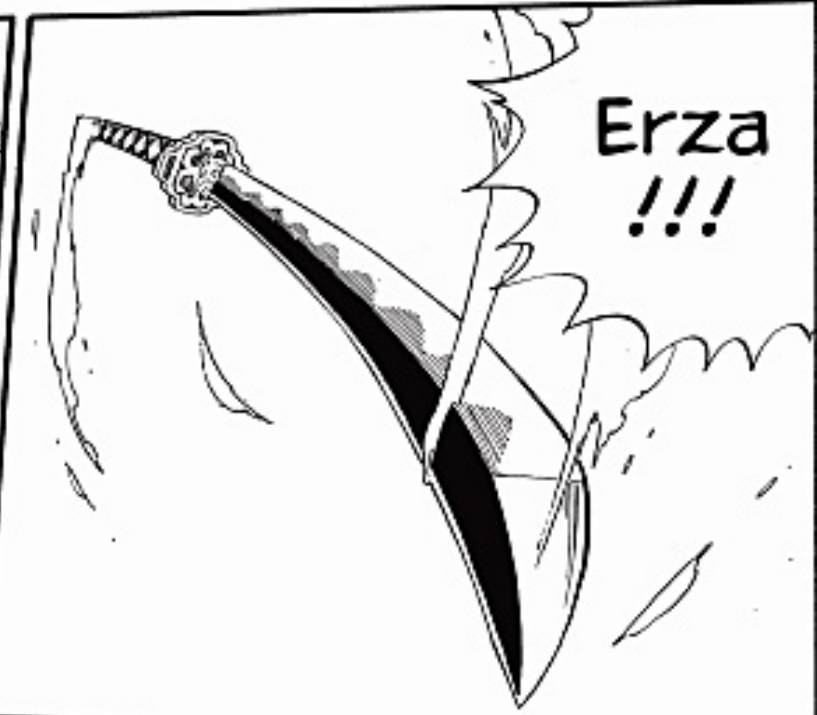
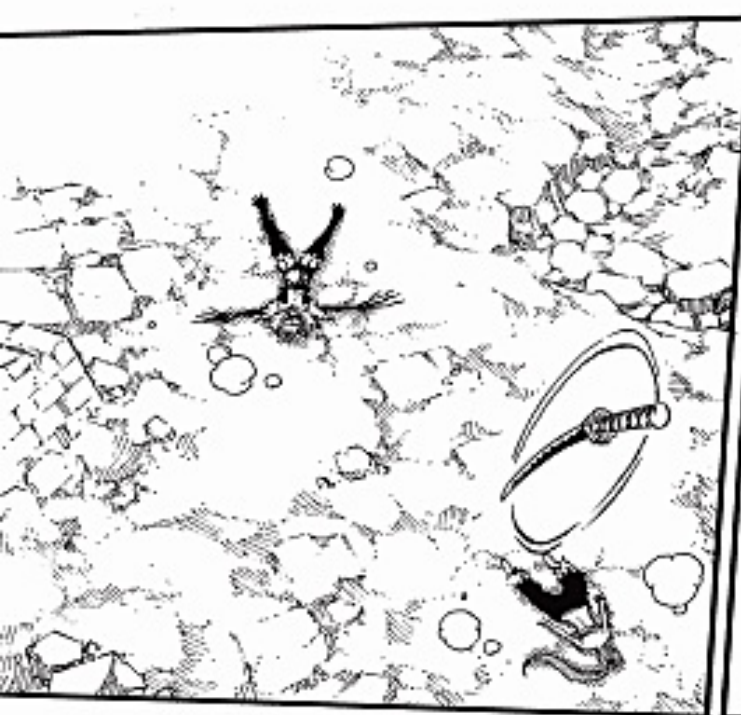


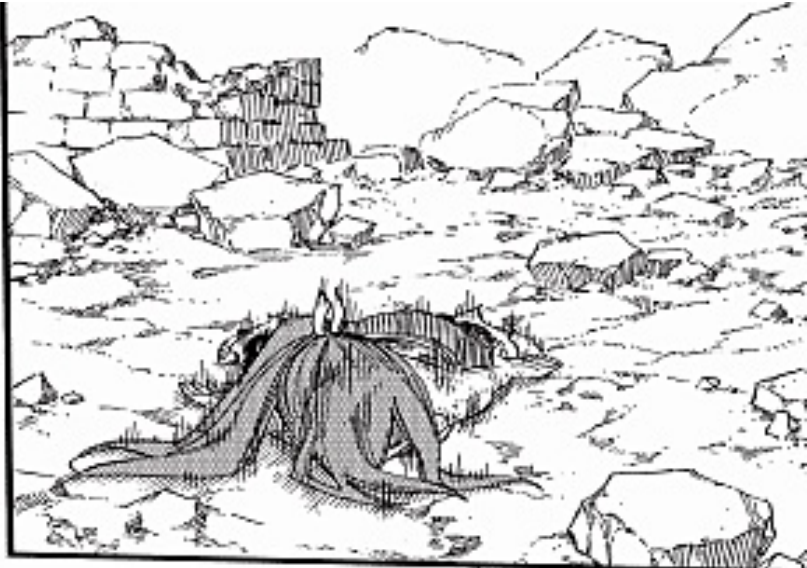
**SHE'S
TOO
STRONG
!!!!**

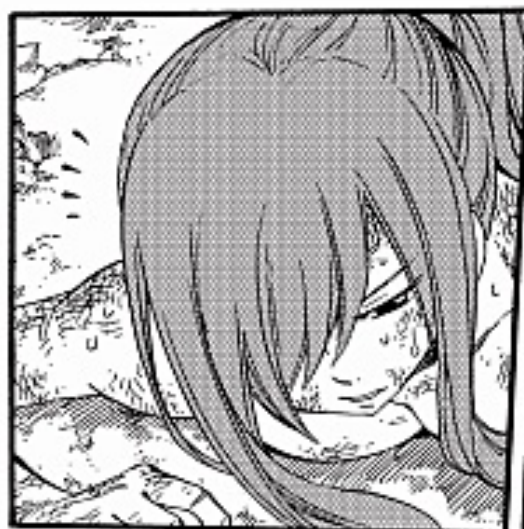




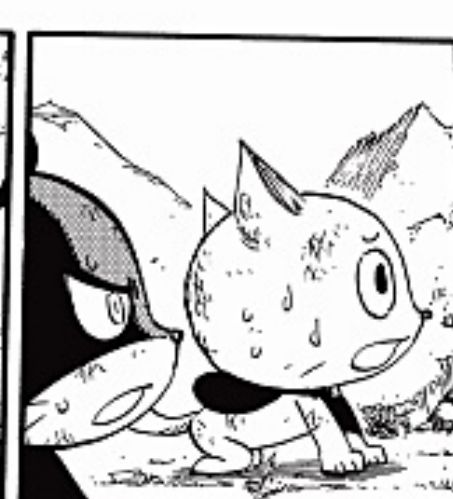
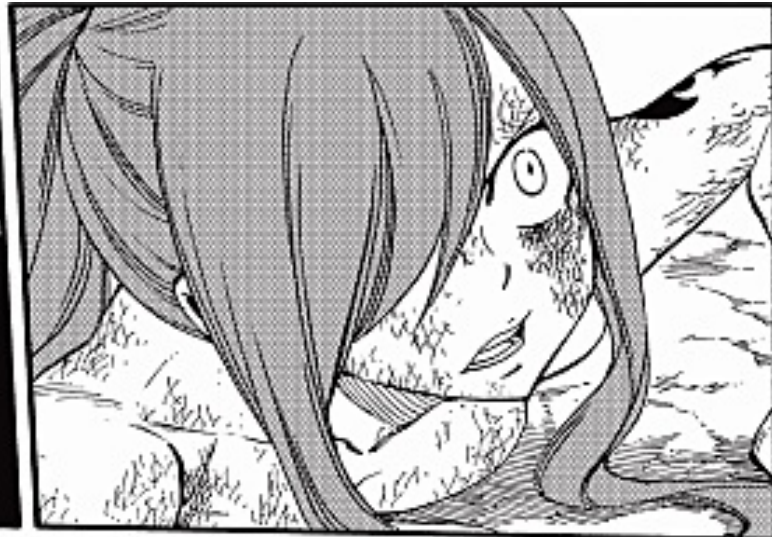






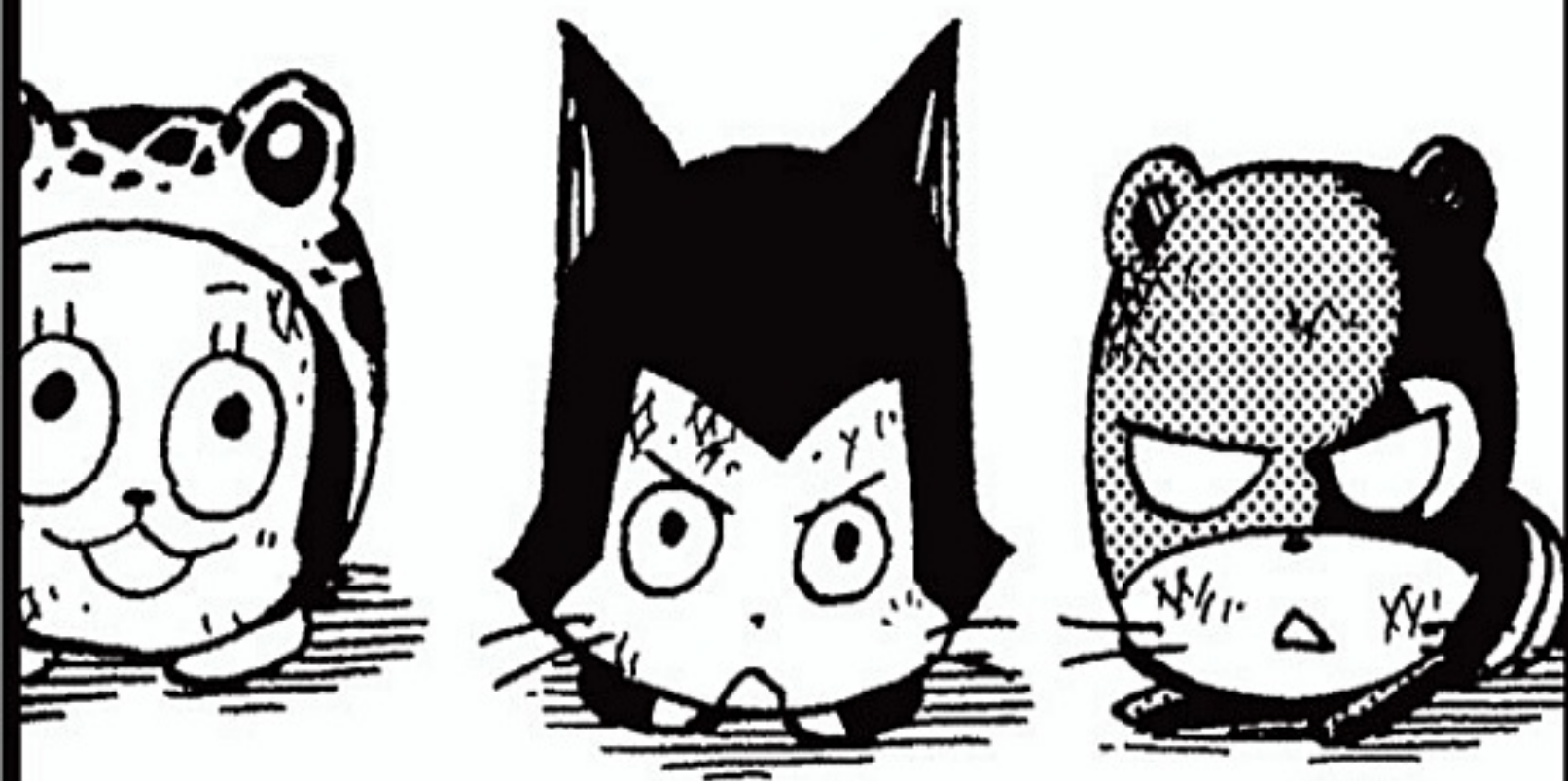






***Magic will
vanish from
the world!!!***





 FAIRYTAIL

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 405: Tartaros Arc, Part Six: Magna Carta



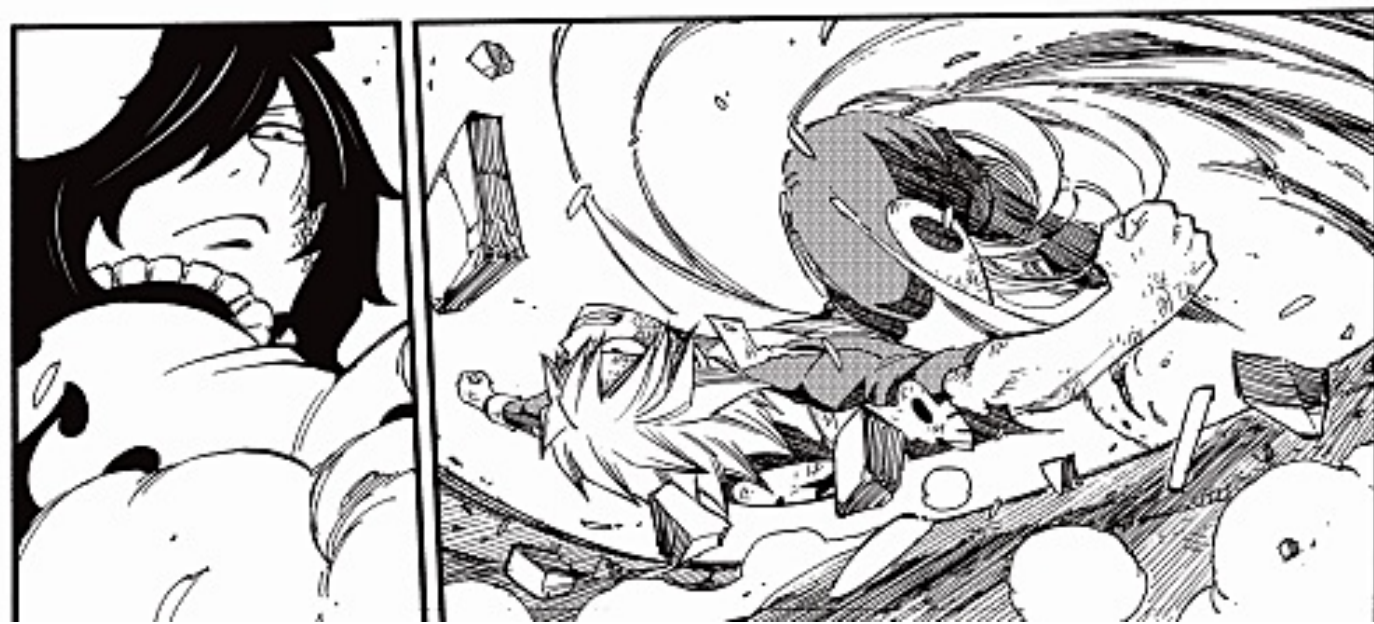
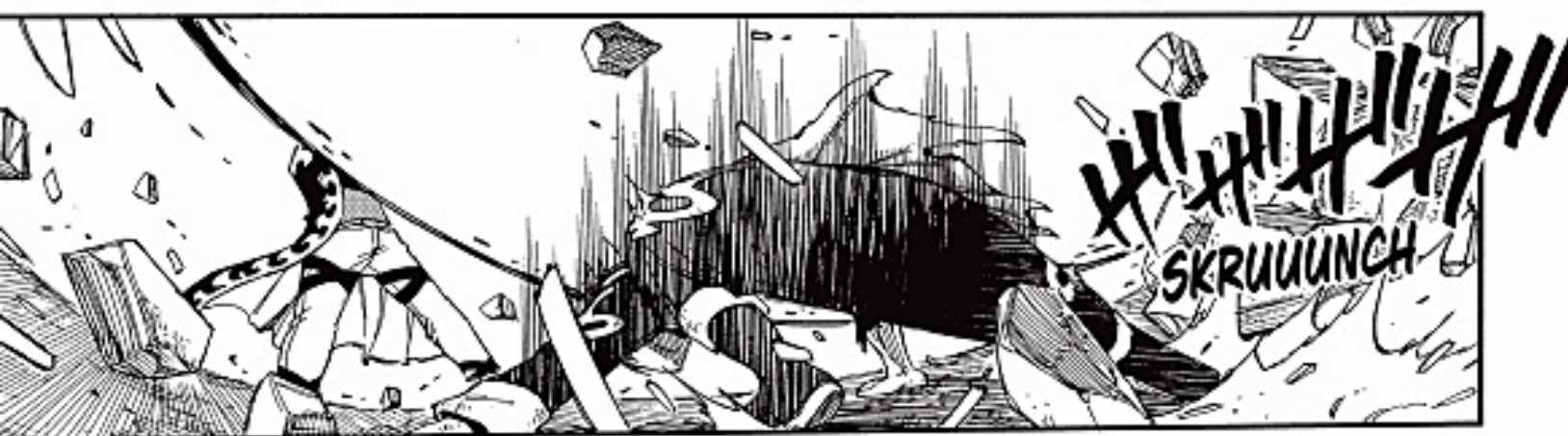
Twenty
minutes
earlier...





Let's
do this,
Igneel
!!!!





**KARYÔ
NO
KAGIZUME*
!!!!**

GWOOOGH

**W
W
W**

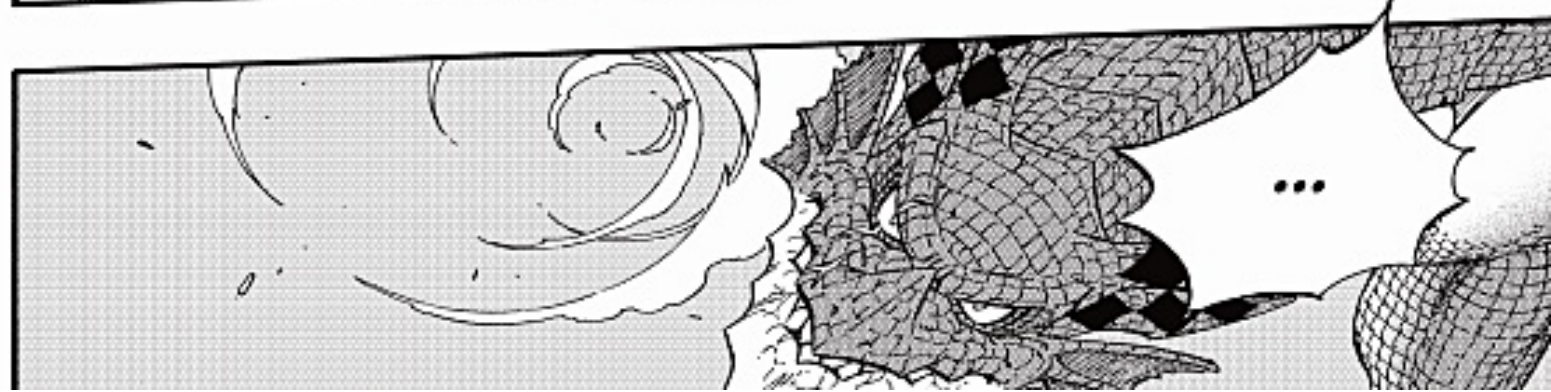
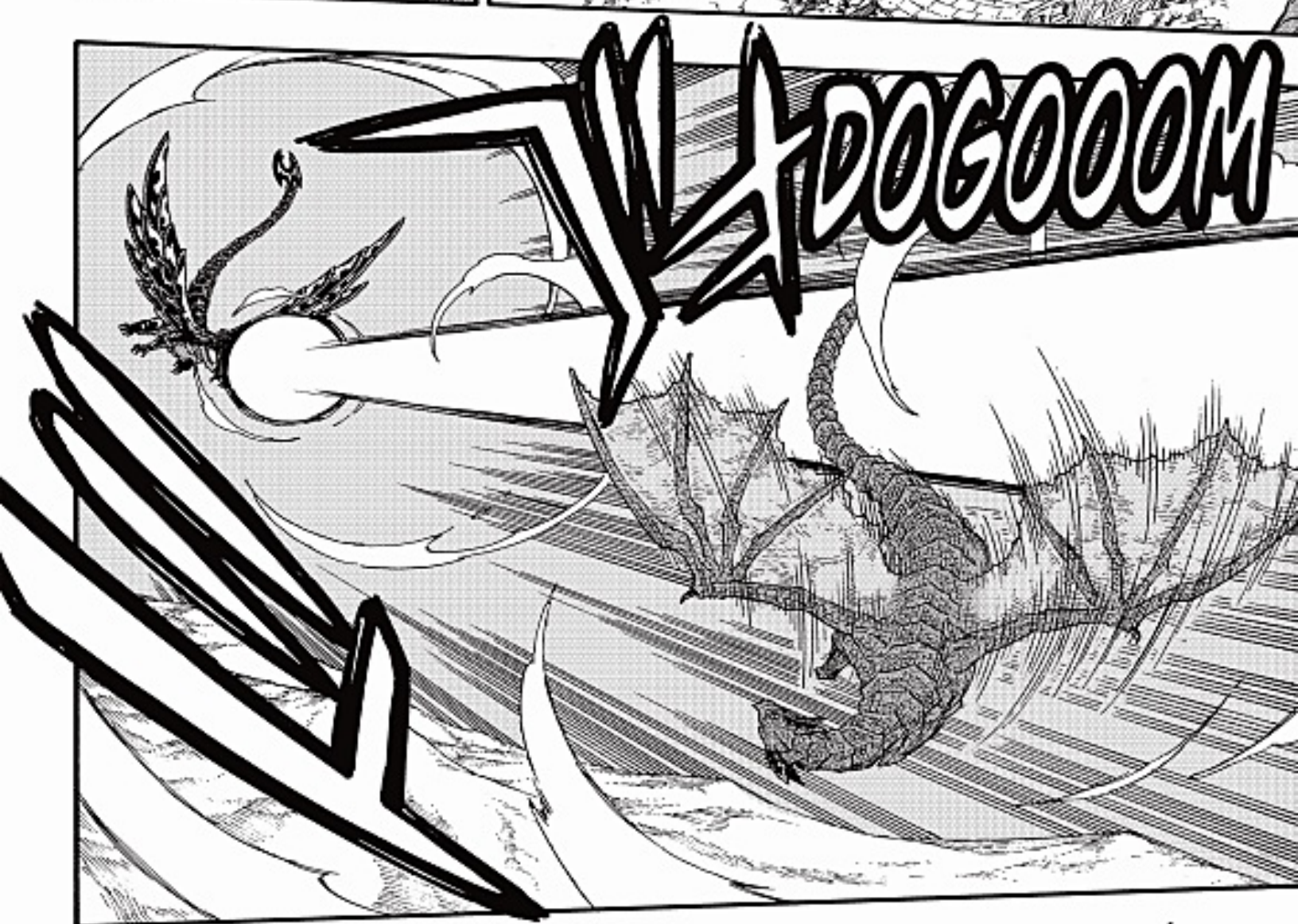
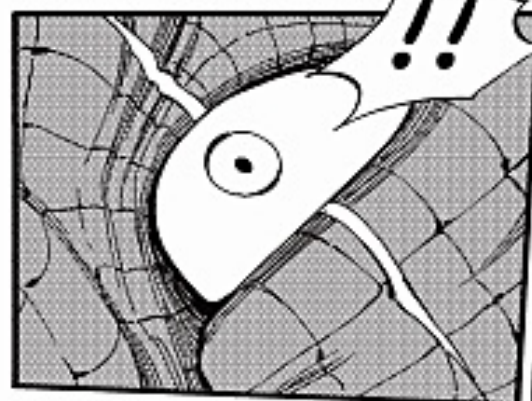
*Fire Dragon's Talons

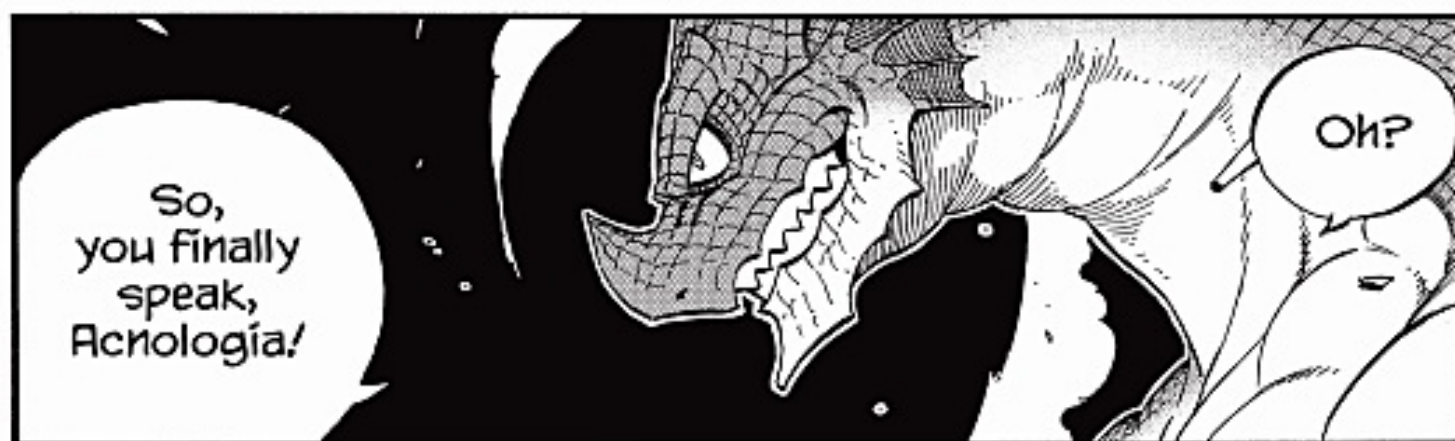




And you
are no
dragon.





















Two
dragons in
the sky.

And three
dragons'
sons before
my eyes.

Perhaps
there are yet
more of you
as well.

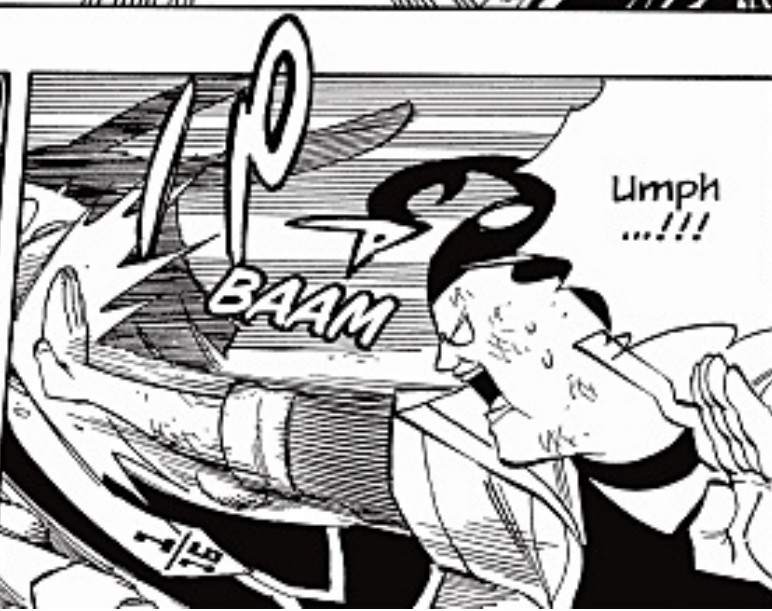
You swoop and
scuttle about my
castle with no
regard...

KLENGH





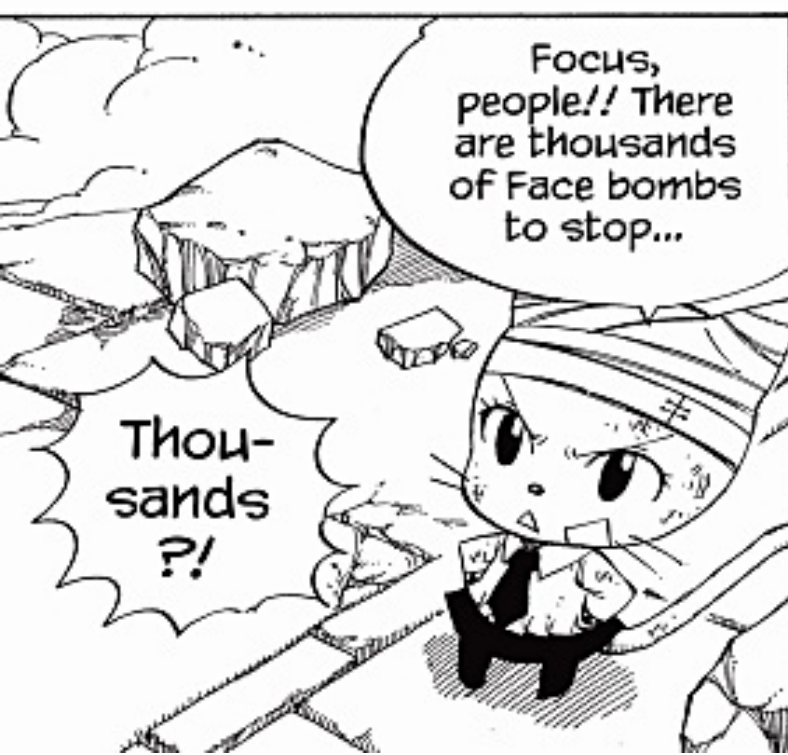
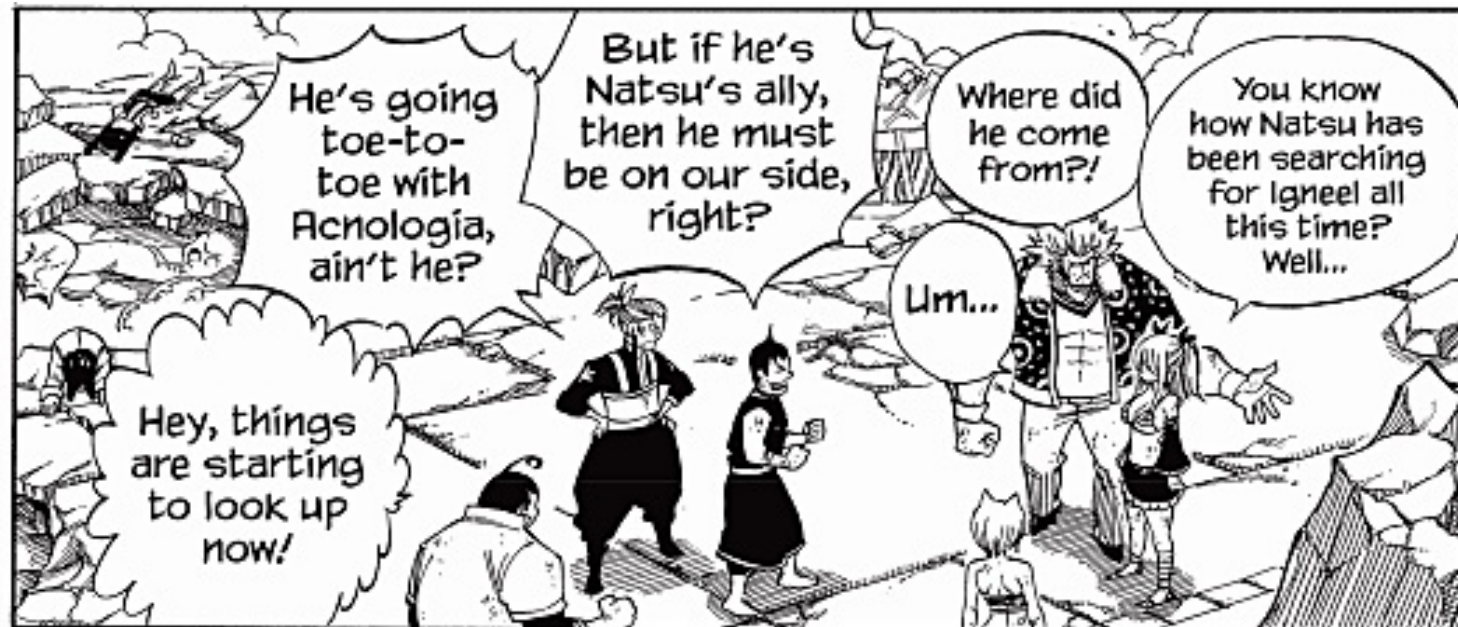


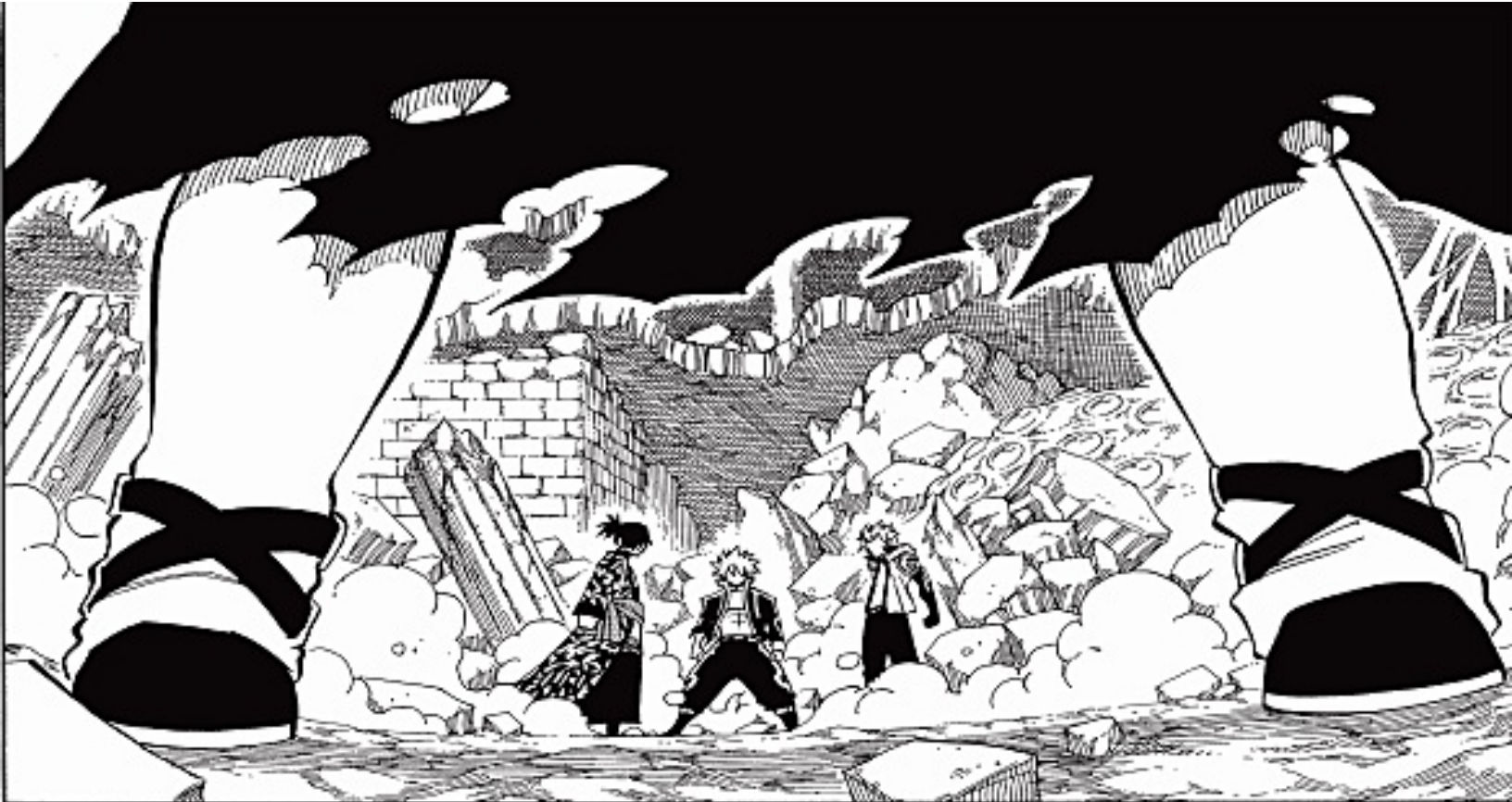


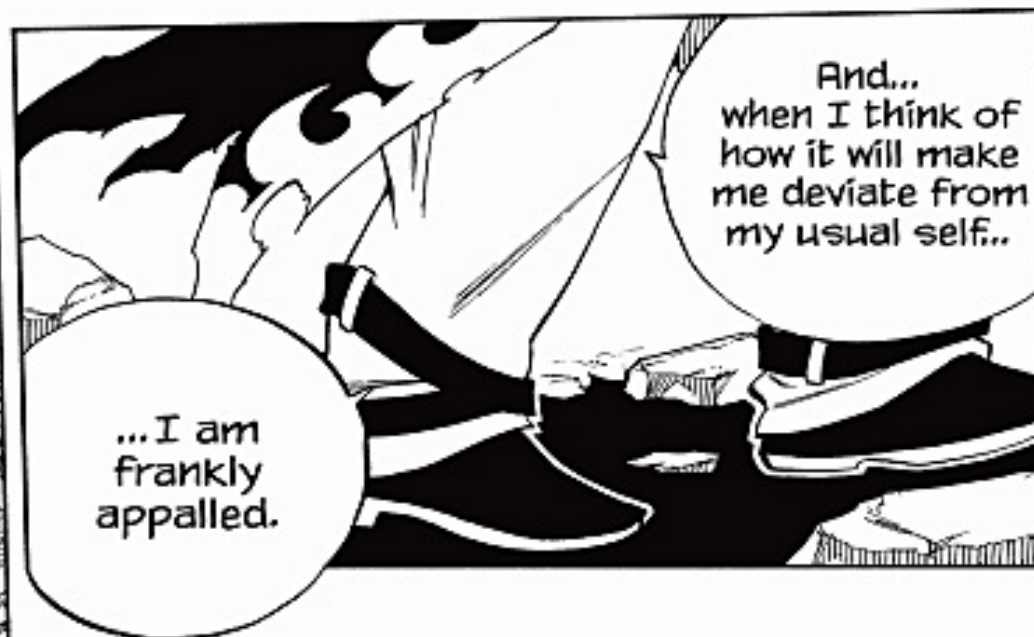
Chapter 406: The Girl in the Crystal









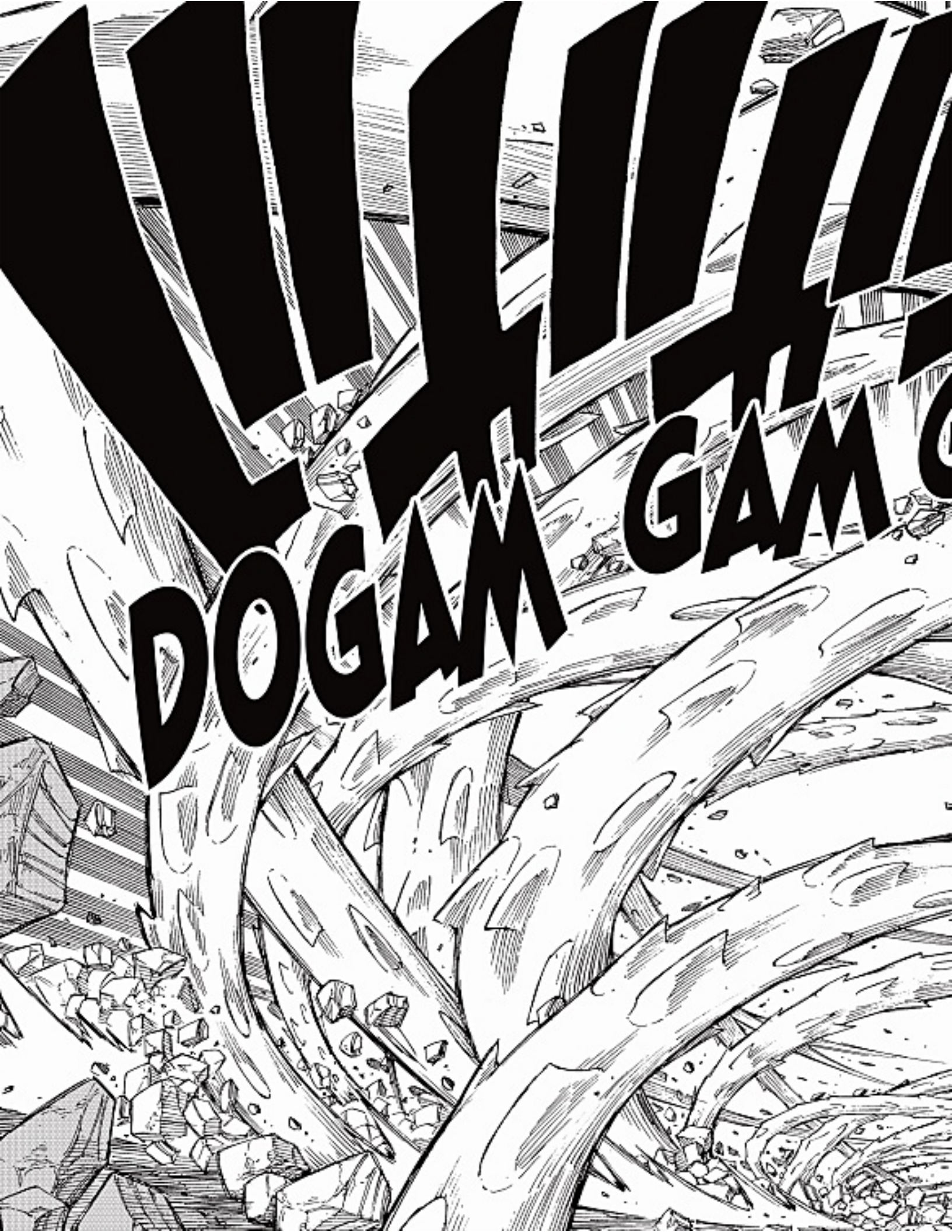


RUMMMMMBLE

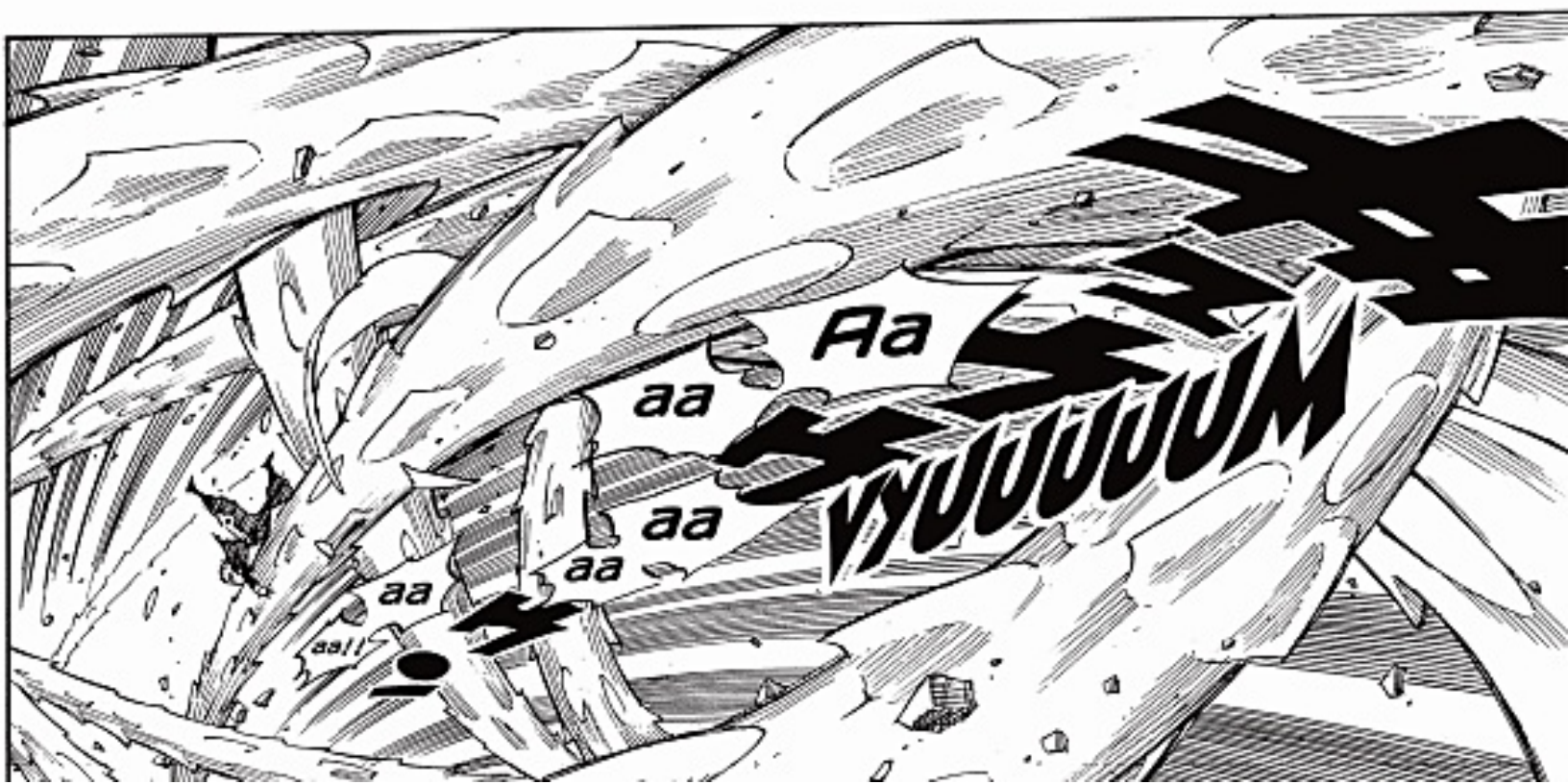
I will once
again banish
this emotion
from my
mind...

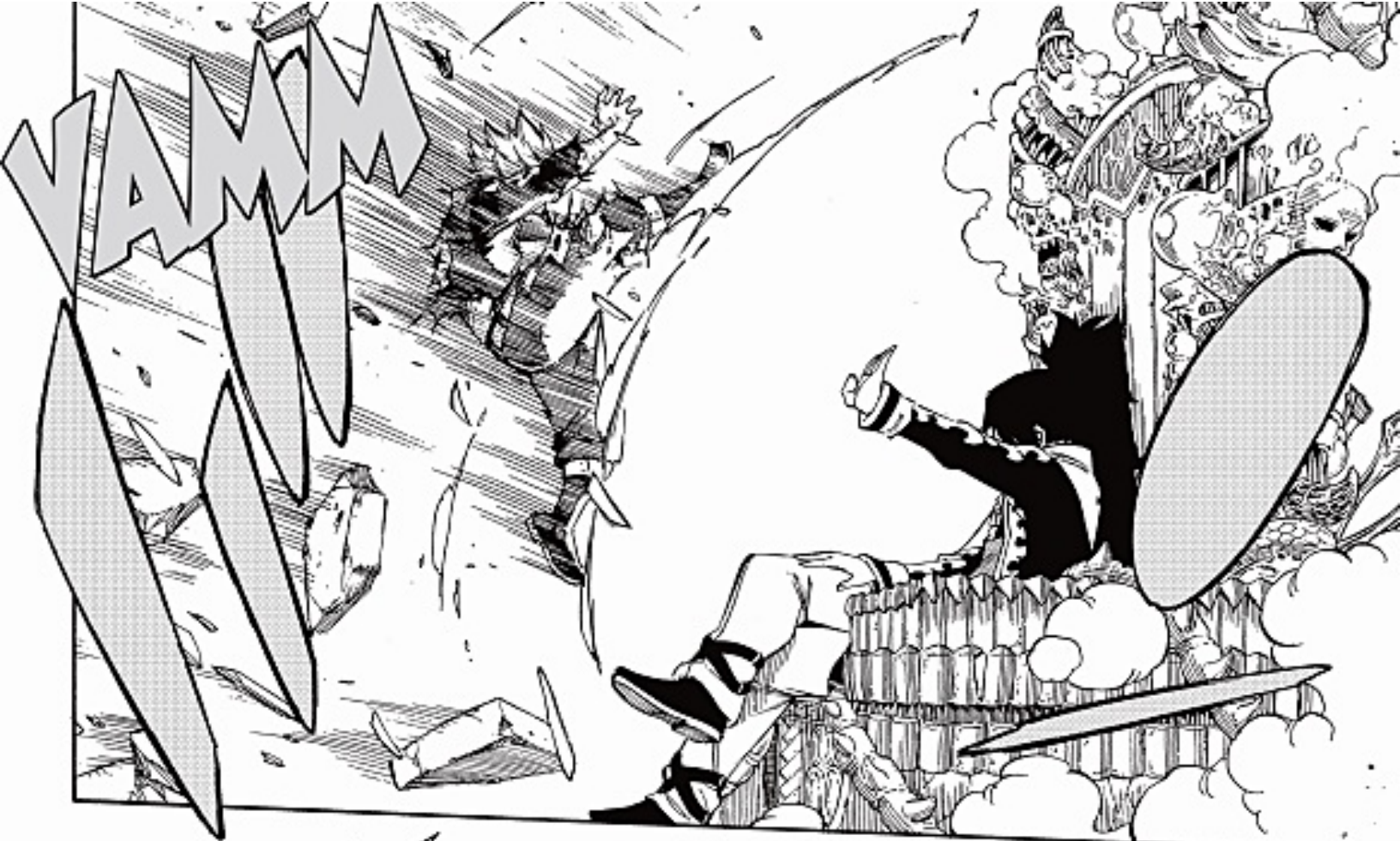
...as I
eradicate
your
existence!















*Sword Edge



**Roar







*Divine-Shadow Dragon, Light Fang



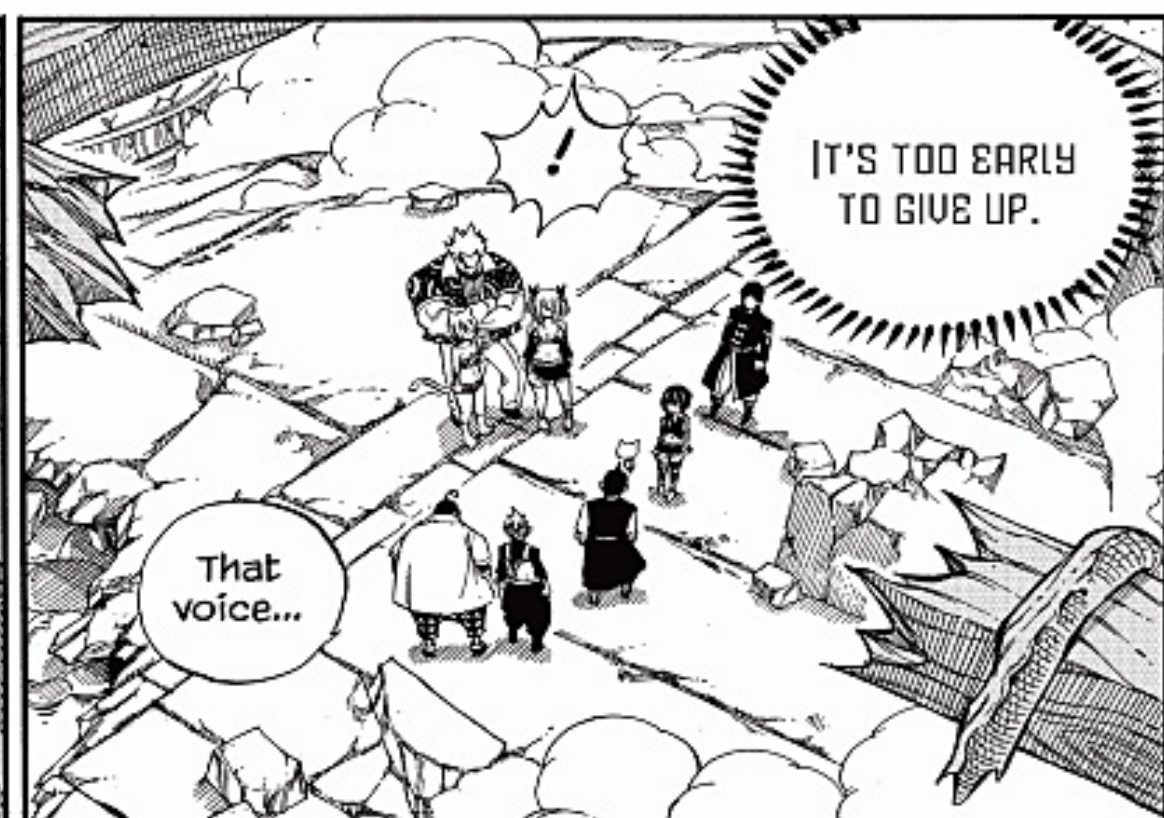


**RAIEN-
RYÔ NO
GEKI-
TETSU*
!!!!**

GWOOON









**Fairy Tail's
ultimate
weapon...**

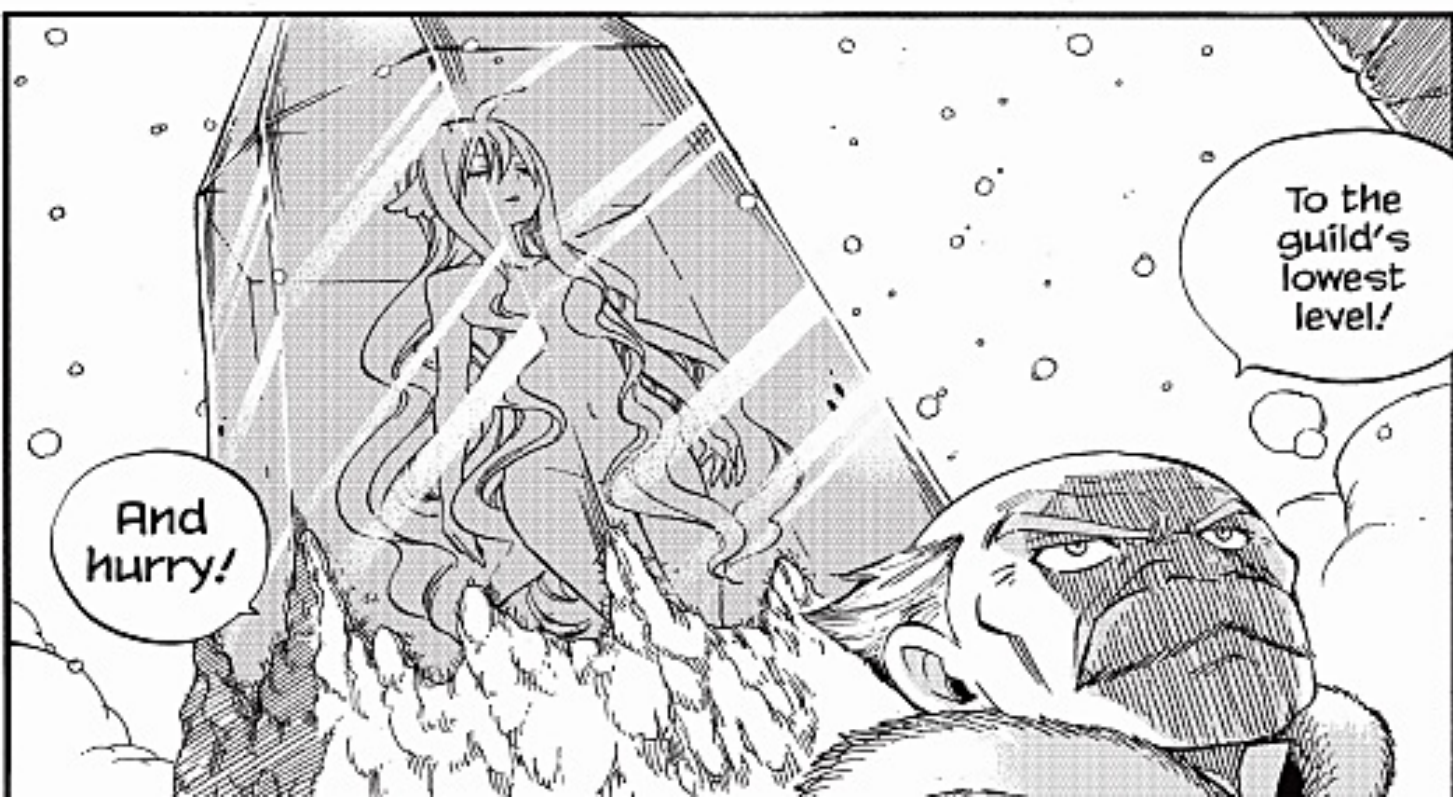
**...LUMEN
HISTOIRE!!!**

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 407: To Destroy My Very Body







Even
so, I...

FINE. DO WHAT
FEELS RIGHT
TO YOU.

Nobody
blames *you*
for the guild's
destruction.



Why?

Elf...

I'll stay
behind.



I'll
need your
ability.



I'M NOT A MEMBER
OF YOUR GUILD.



A
private
message
?

YOU
COME
TOO.



...YOU'LL WIPE ALL
MEMORY OF LUMEN
HISTOIRE FROM THE
GUILD MEMBERS'
HEADS.

ONCE
THIS IS ALL
SETTLED...



I SUPPOSE YOU'LL
EXPECT ME TO
ERASE IT FROM MY
OWN MIND TOO?



YOU WILL
HAVE TO.

THAT'S
RIGHT!



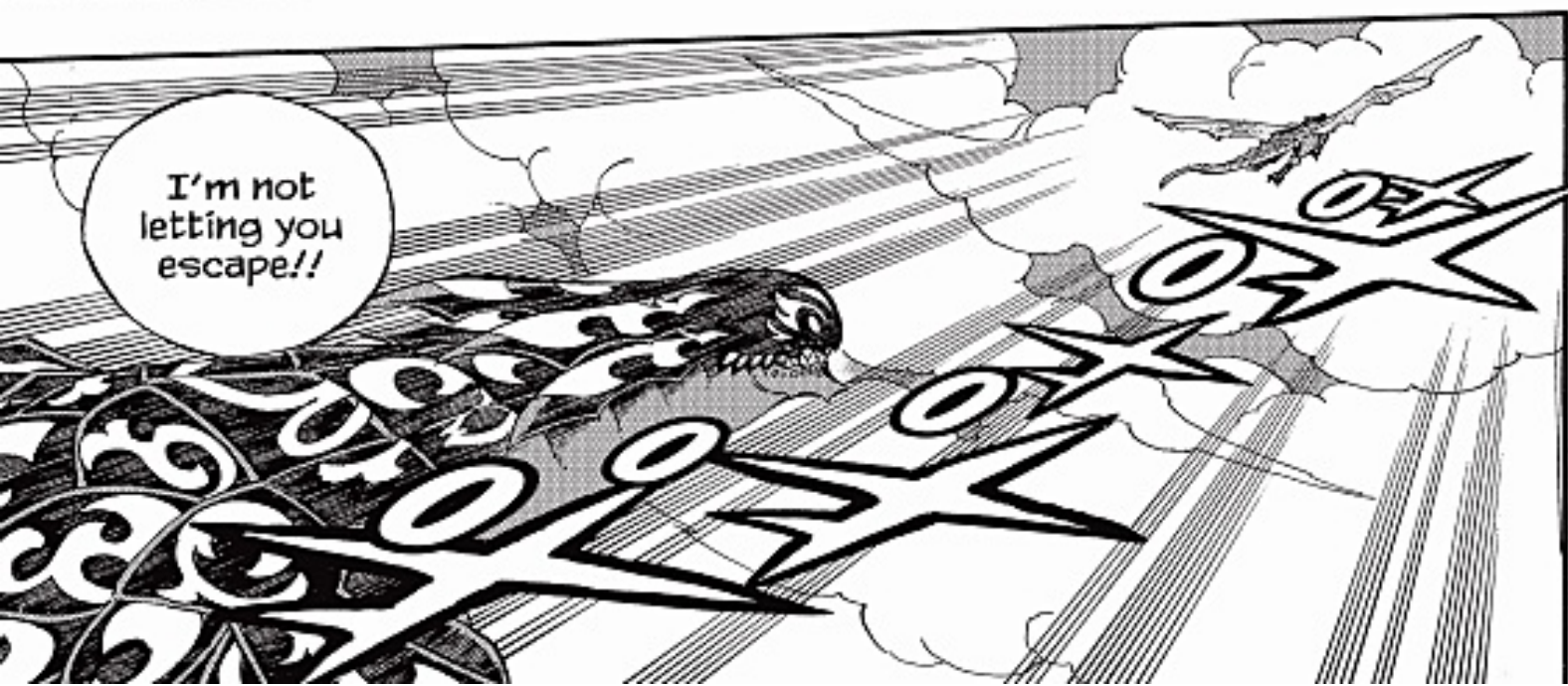
Elf, take
care, okay?

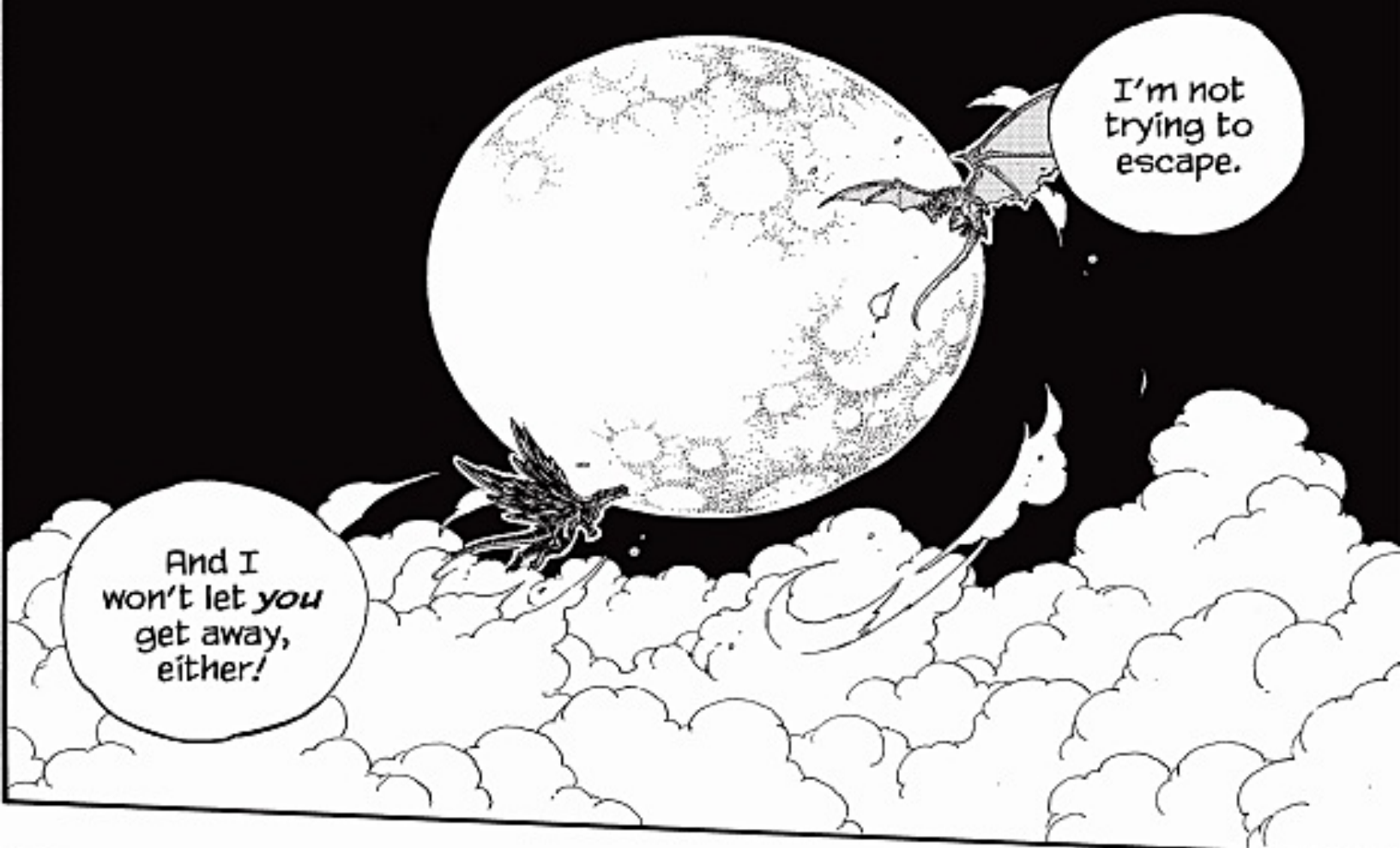
Yeah!

Let's
get there
quick!

What
is this
Lumen
Histoire
supposed
to be...?!

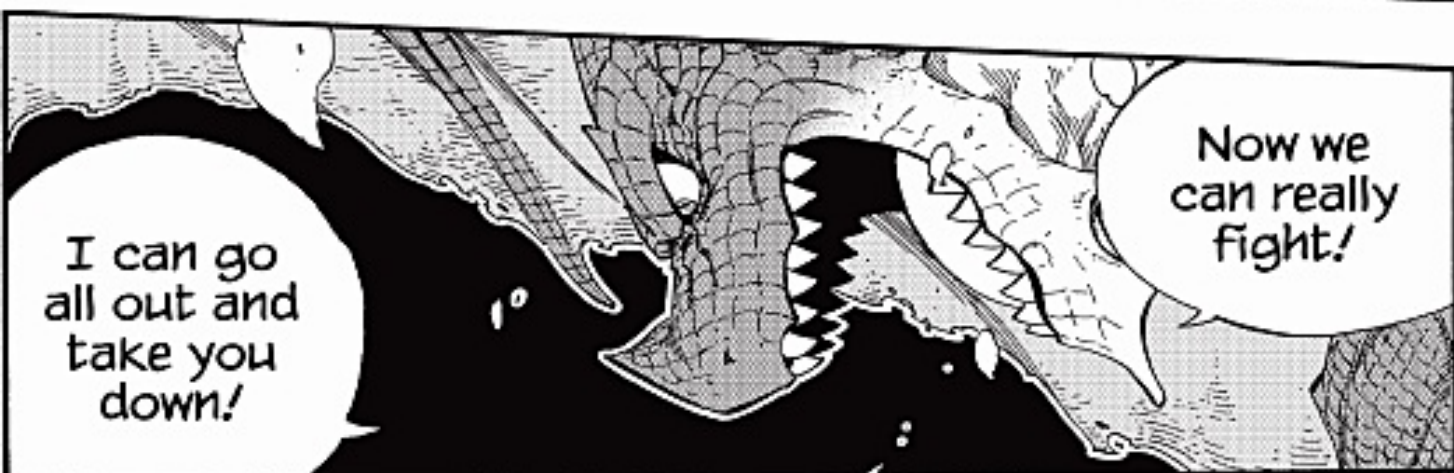






And I
won't let *you*
get away,
either!

I'm not
trying to
escape.



I can go
all out and
take you
down!

Now we
can really
fight!



I will
simply
destroy
you!

Fight?

Hardly...



DETONATE FACE
IMMEDIATELY!

KYÔKA, IS
IT DONE?



As long as
it earns this
one Zeref's
favor...!!!

Because
fate wills
it!!

VLOOM

GRATCH
THUD

WHAM

Why would
you go that
far?!!

All demons
written in the
Book of Zeref
share a destiny...
to return to
Zeref!!

GAFOOM

However...
She does
appear to be
carrying out
her assigned
task.

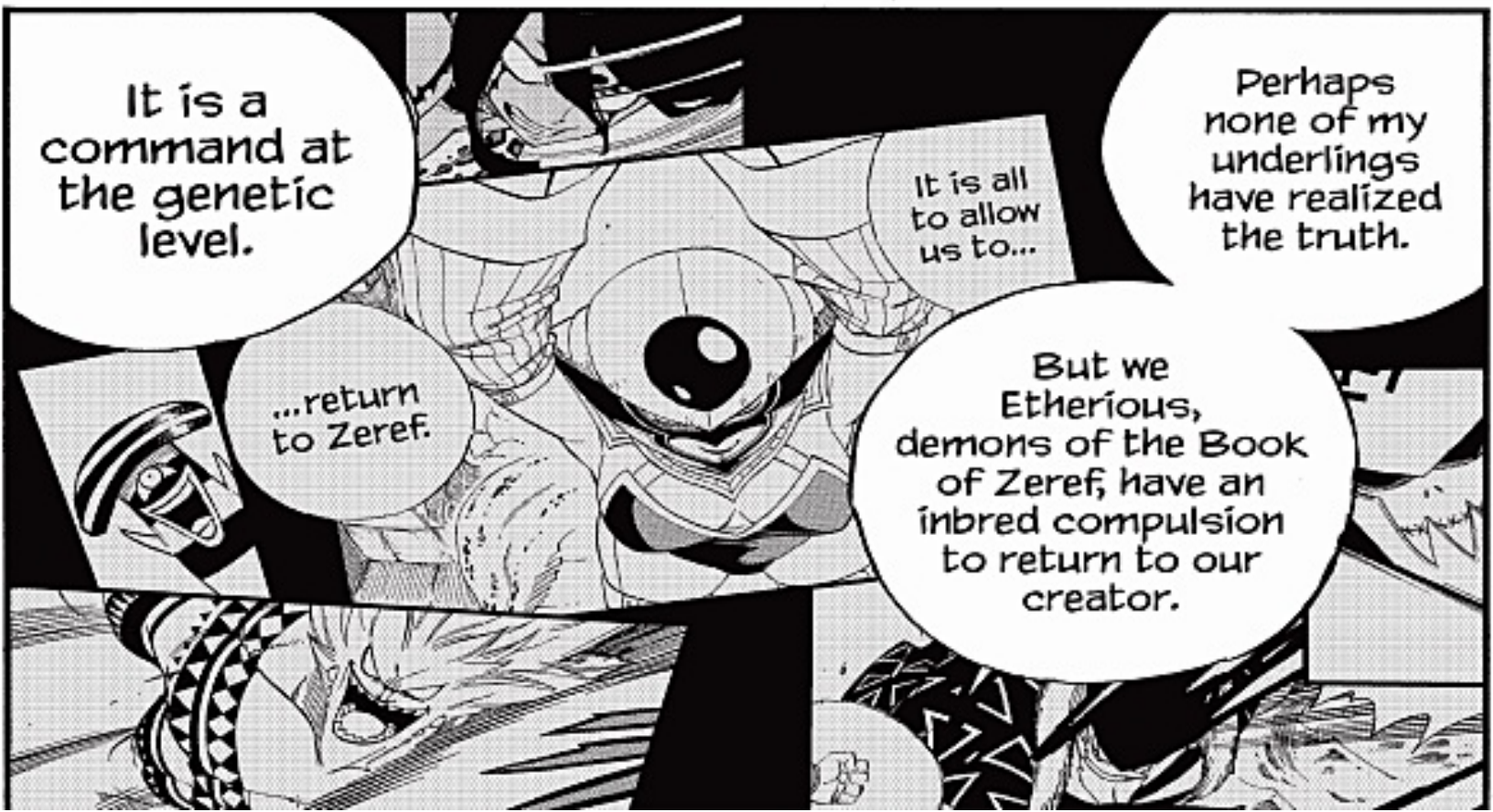
For pity's sake...
She is so caught
up in battle, she
has forgotten
even Mard
Geer's voice.





...to the question of why Zeref created us?

Have you ever given a moment of thought...



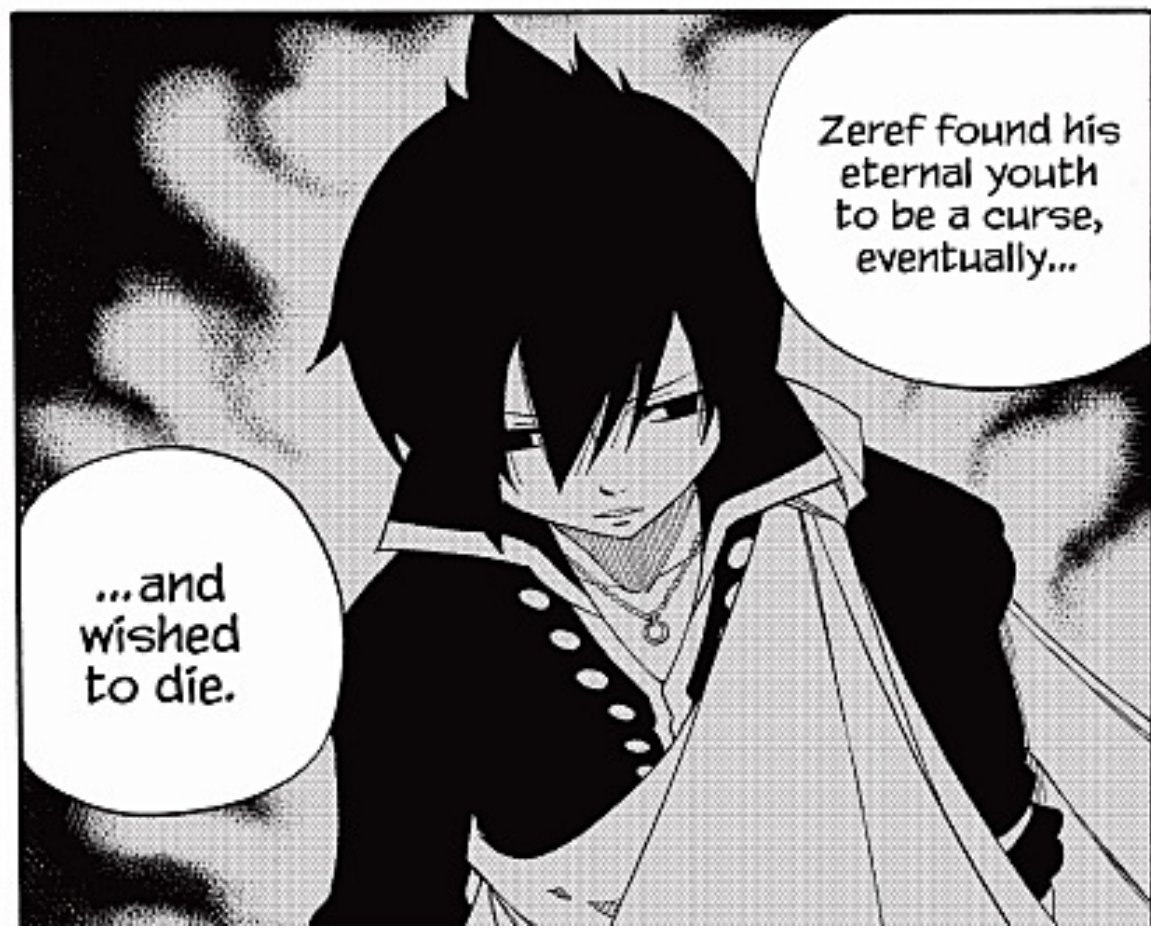
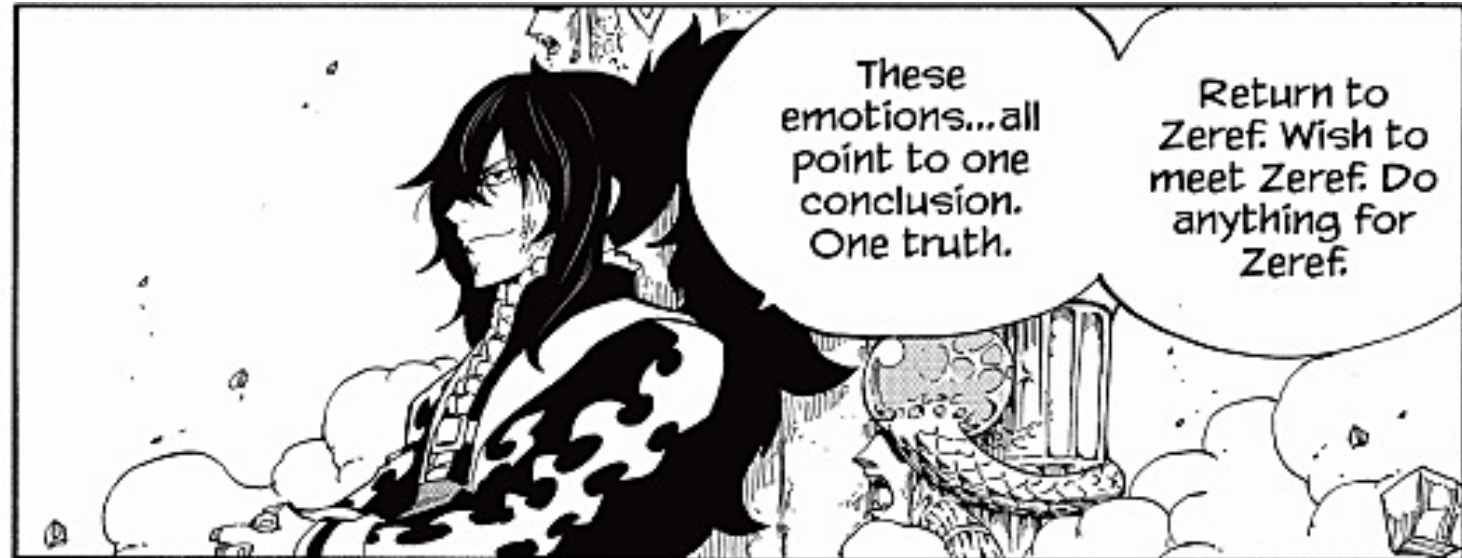
It is a command at the genetic level.

...return to Zeref.

It is all to allow us to...

Perhaps none of my underlings have realized the truth.

But we Etherious, demons of the Book of Zeref, have an inbred compulsion to return to our creator.





**The demons
of the Book of
Zeref...**

**... were
created to
be...**

**... instruments
of Zeref's
suicide!**

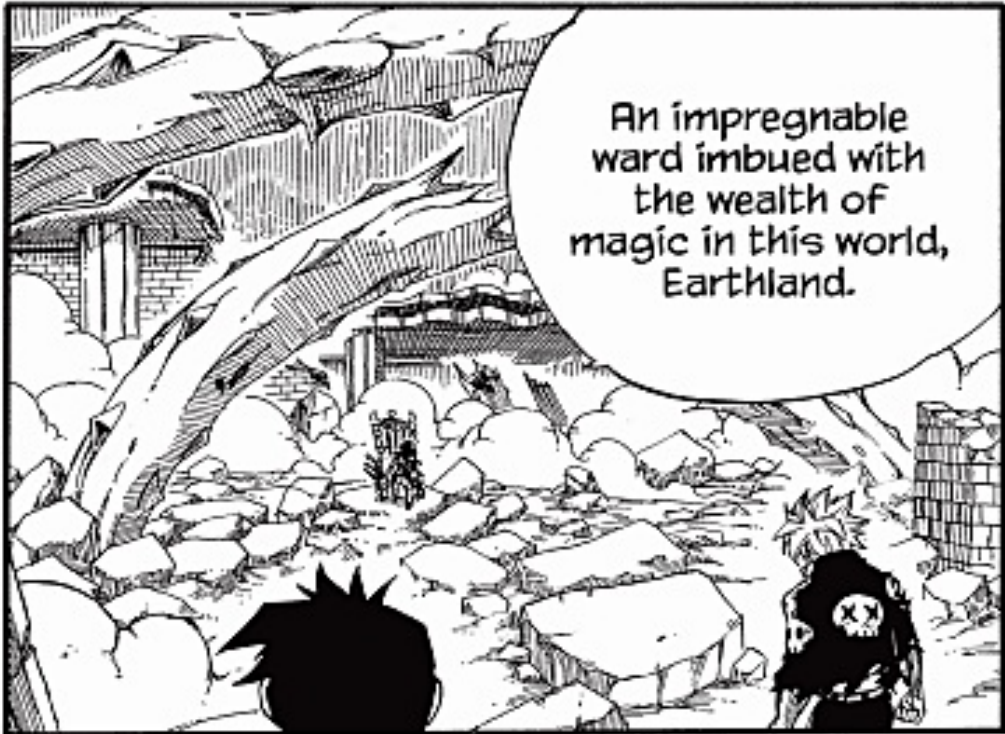


However... I cannot say why, but it has been sealed by a ward.

END is the pinnacle of his creations.



As the Face bombs detonate, eliminating all the magic on the continent, the seal will dissolve, and END will awaken.

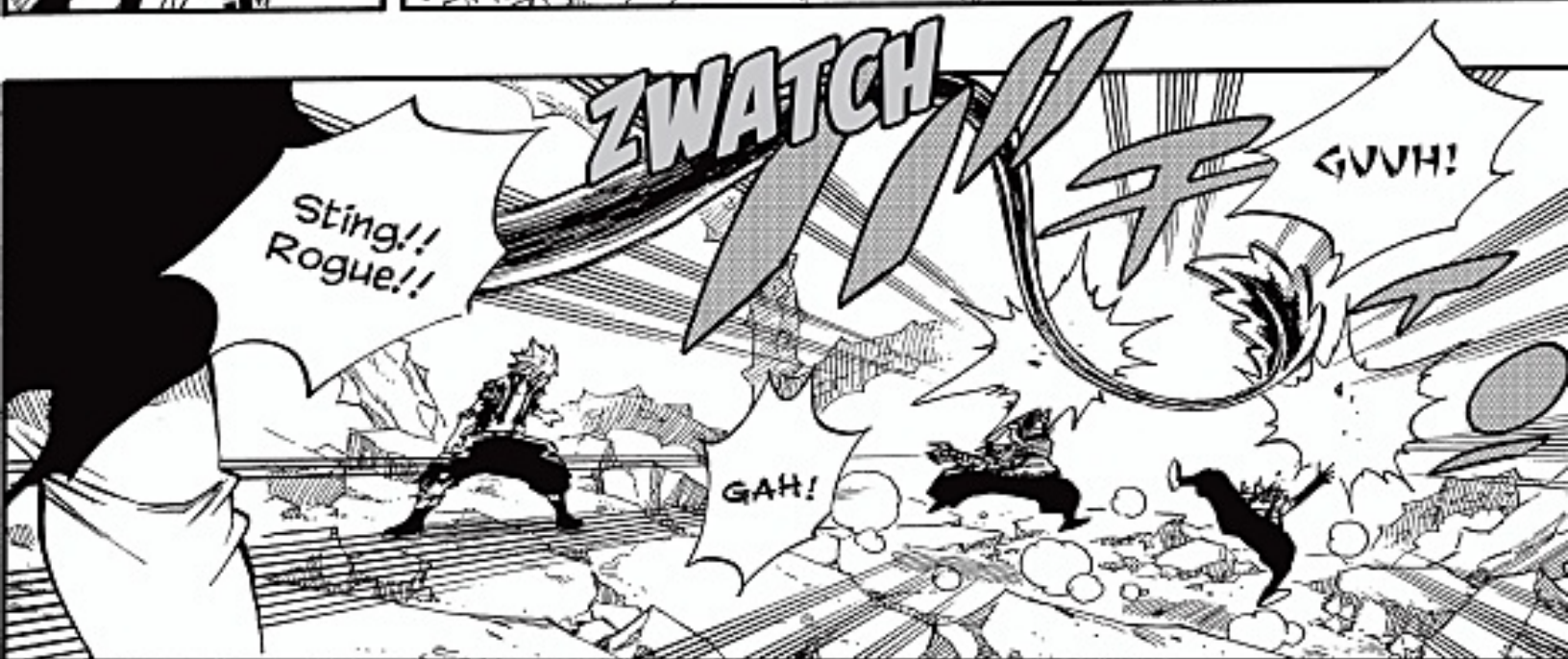


An impregnable ward imbued with the wealth of magic in this world, Earthland.

Just as we desire. As Zeref desires.

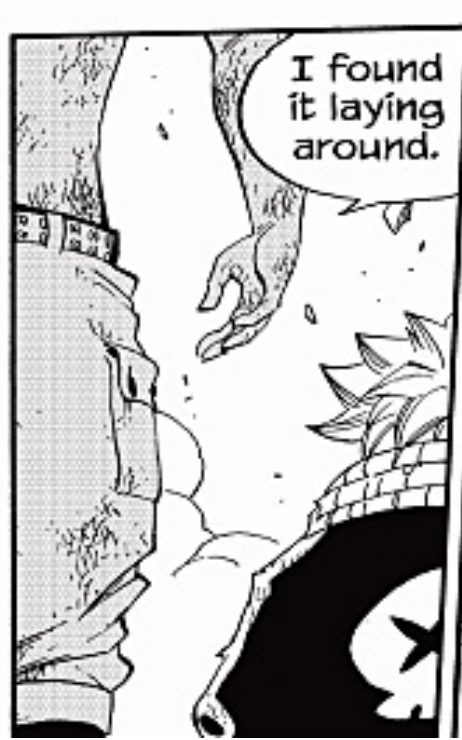
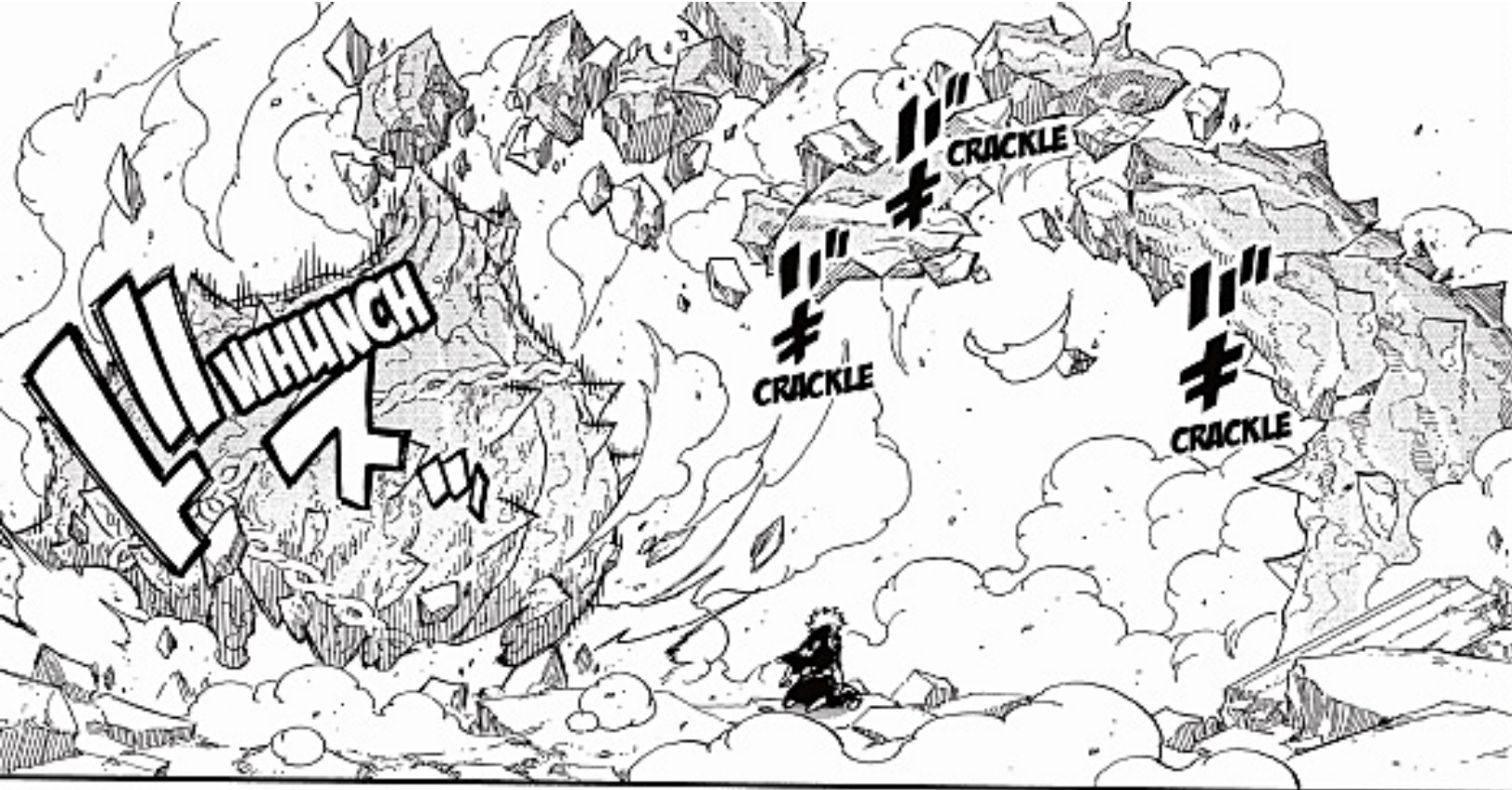


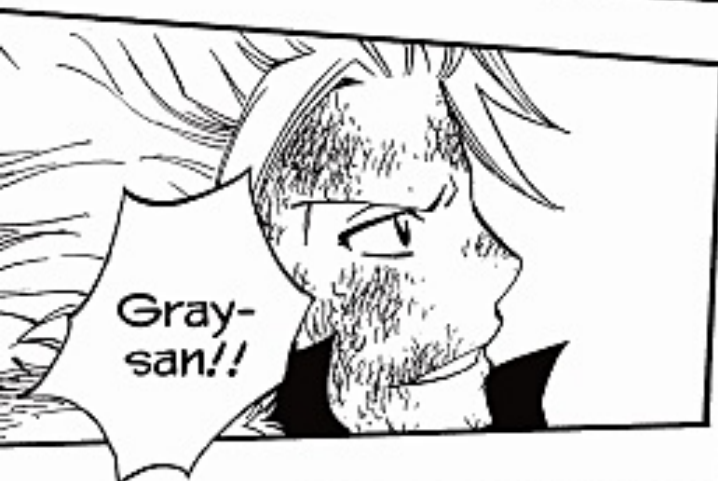
It will murder Zeref.













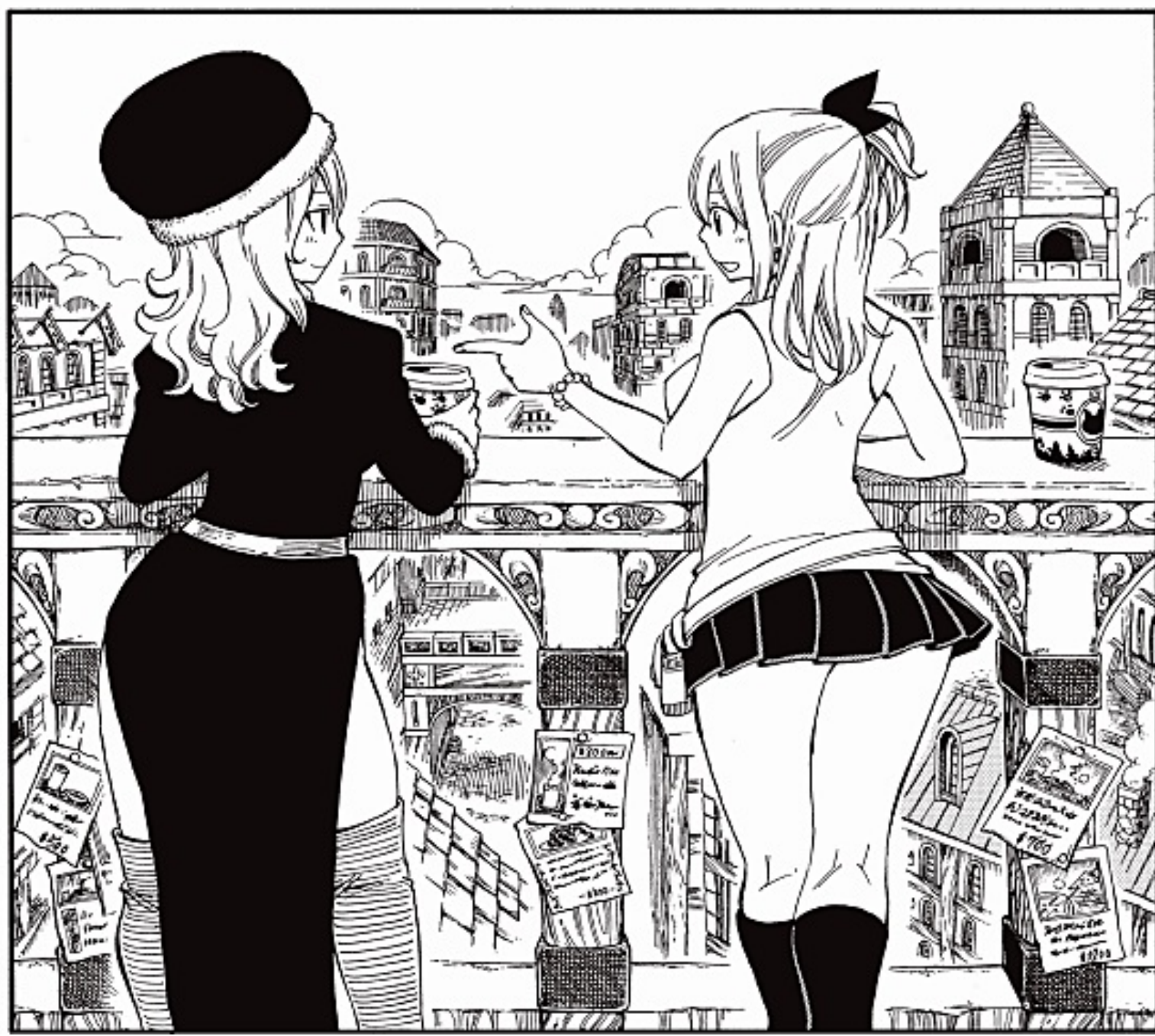
If it's that
important,
don't let it
get away
from you!

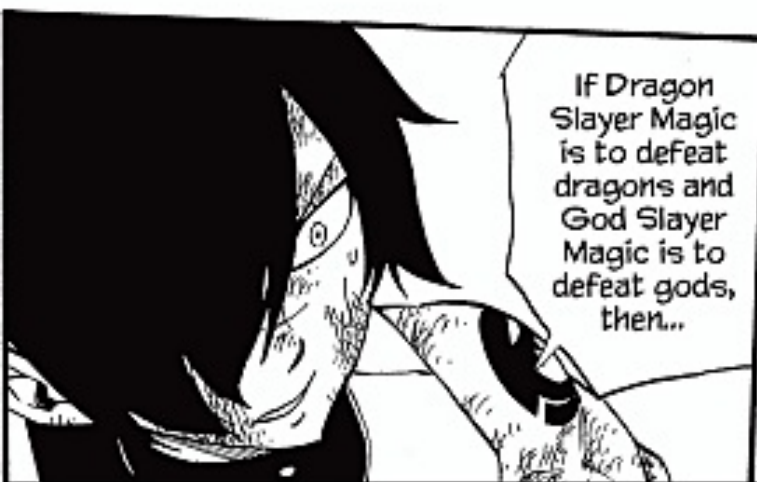


FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 408: The Definitive Demon









This...
is Silver's...



I knew
he would
someday
betray us.

But
I admit
I did not
foresee that
it would
take this
form.



BAKOOOM



Fate is truly
fascinating!

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM





He wanted
to destroy
all of
you!!!!

GAH
!!

BAKIIIIIN



AGHH
!!

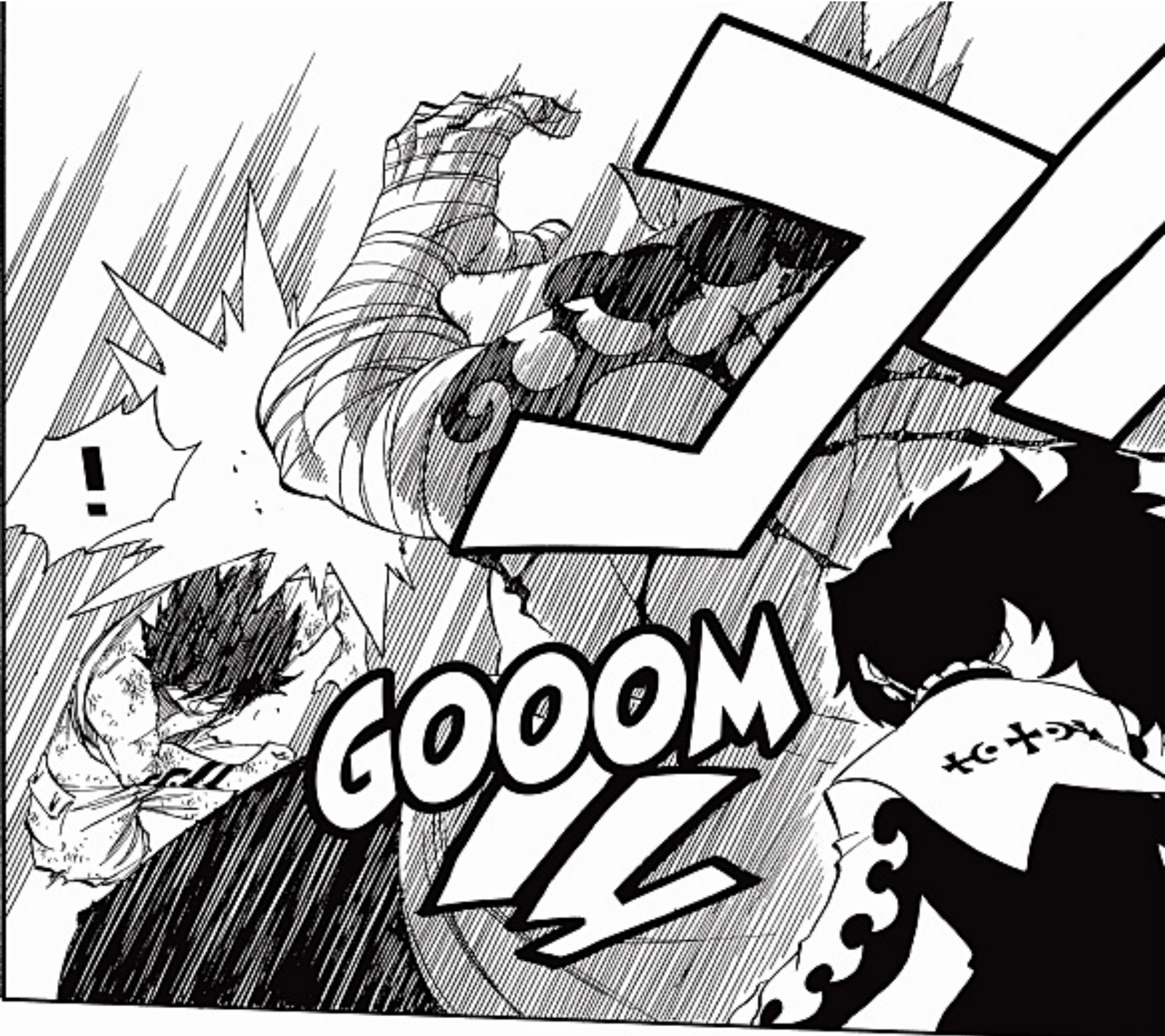
GUH
!!

HAK
!!



*Ice Demon Zero's Long Sword







RUMMM

Zienna!

MBLLE

This guy was the
master from
Saber?!



Uh...



Master
...



I came
to *them*
looking
for more
power!!



Made me?
No.



They made
him into
a demon,
just like
Minerva?

...my new
servant.

You are a demon
whose powers
far surpass the
Nine Demon
Gates...



All I do
has one
purpose...
to become
the
strongest!!





You say one
whose power
resounds
far and wide
is anyone's
servant?!

Servant?



DMP

**Under-
world
King!!!!**



**Once I have
buried these
brats, it will
be your turn
next!!!!**



**Don't
get
scared
!!!!**



Uhh
...



Urk...



**There ain't
no reason to
be scared of
this jerk!!!**



!!

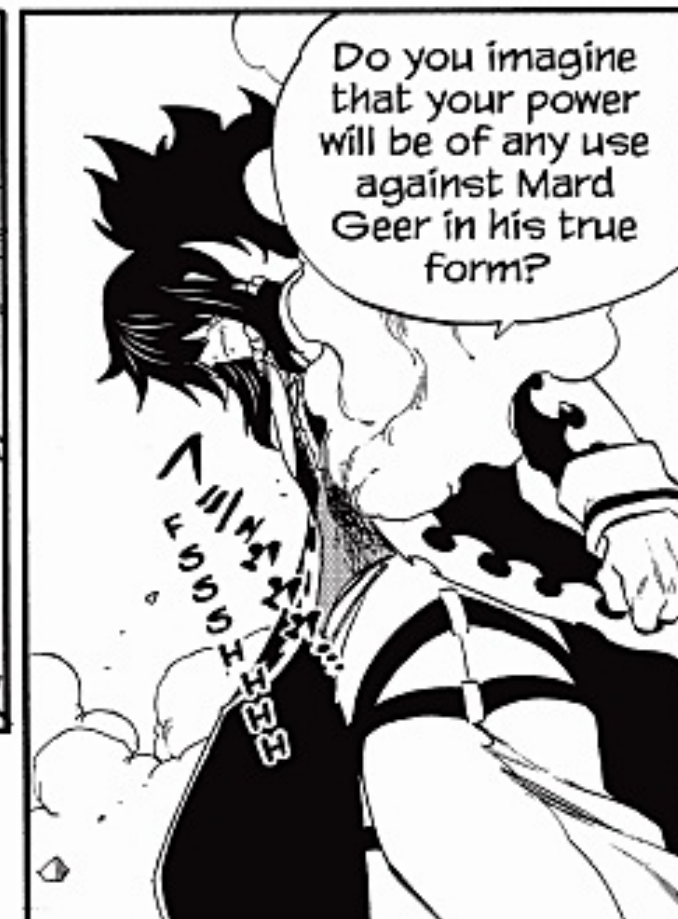


**Charge
!!!!**









A large, detailed illustration of a dragon's head, likely the White Dragon King Igneel, dominates the right side of the page. The dragon has a large, curved horn and a fierce expression. A large speech bubble is overlaid on the dragon's face.

**I am the
Underworld
King, and
the definitive
demon!!**

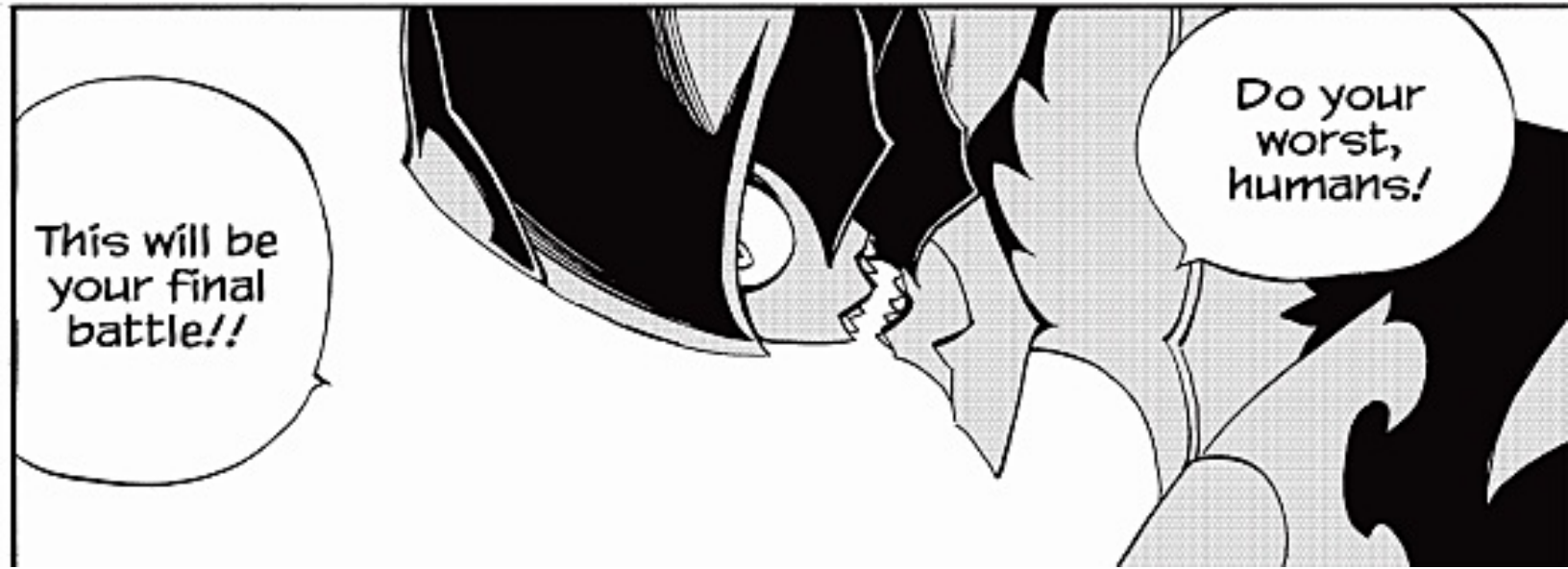
A black and white manga-style illustration of the character Mard Geer Tartaros. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark, spiked collar with a single glowing eye in the center. He has a large, muscular hand visible, with a thick, segmented gauntlet. The background features stylized, jagged rock formations. A speech bubble is positioned in the upper right corner, and a large sound effect is at the bottom.

**My name is
Mard Geer
Tartaros!!!**

DOOOOON



**In the name
of Fairy Tail,
we are going
to take you
down!!!**



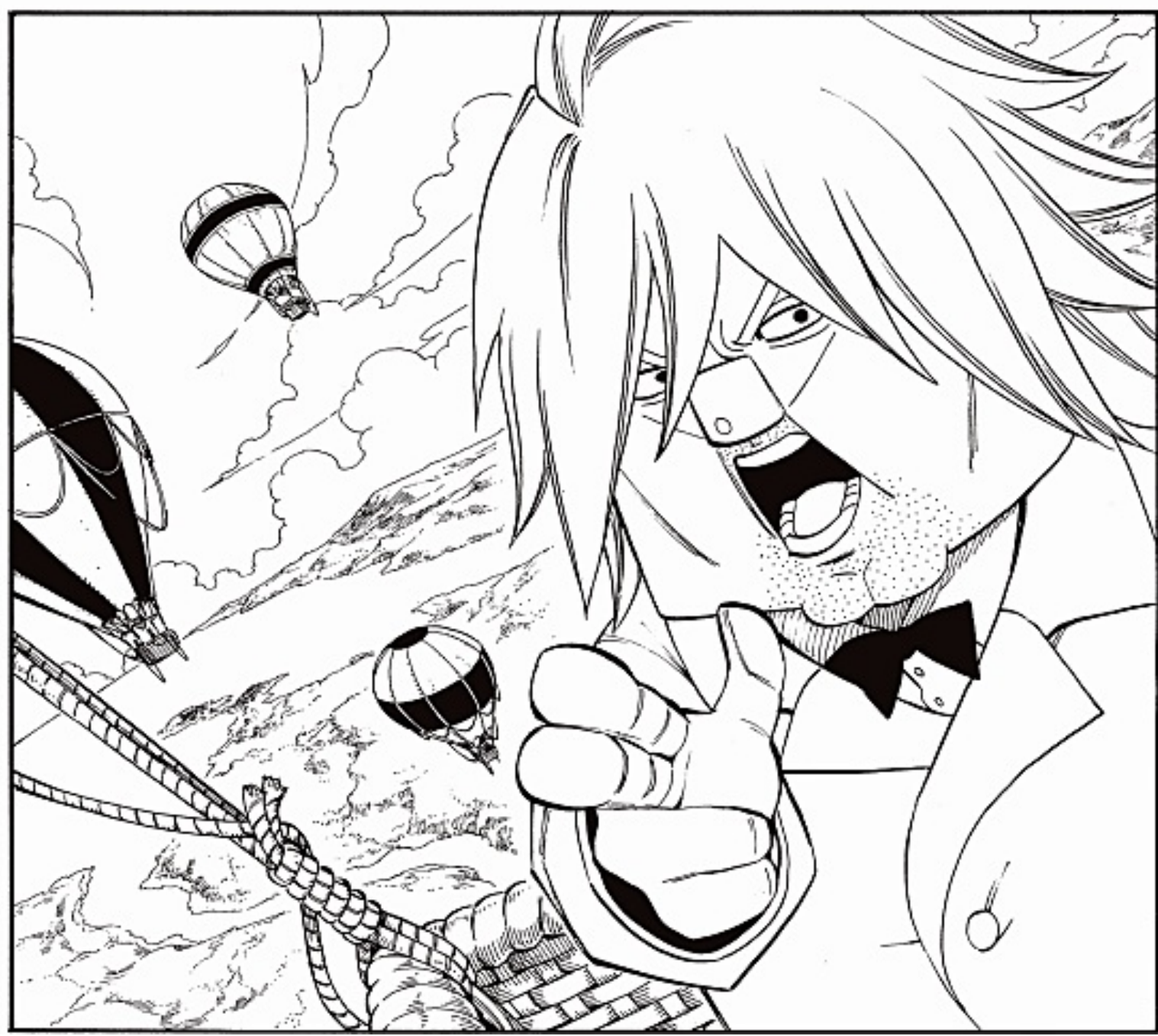
**This will be
your final
battle!!**

**Do your
worst,
humans!**

FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 409: Thread of White and Black







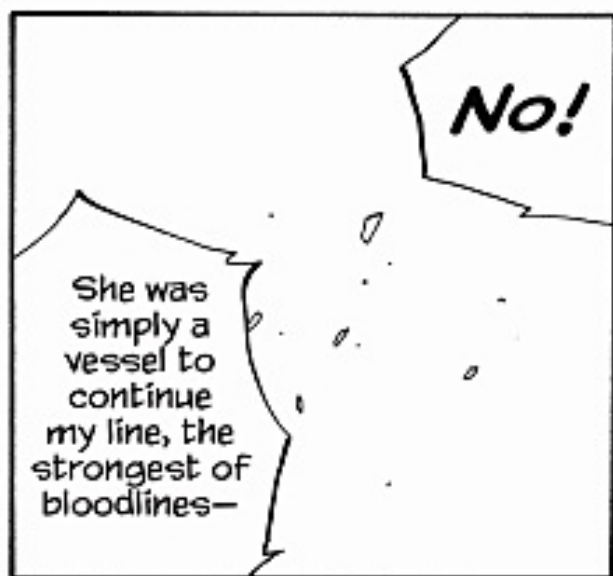








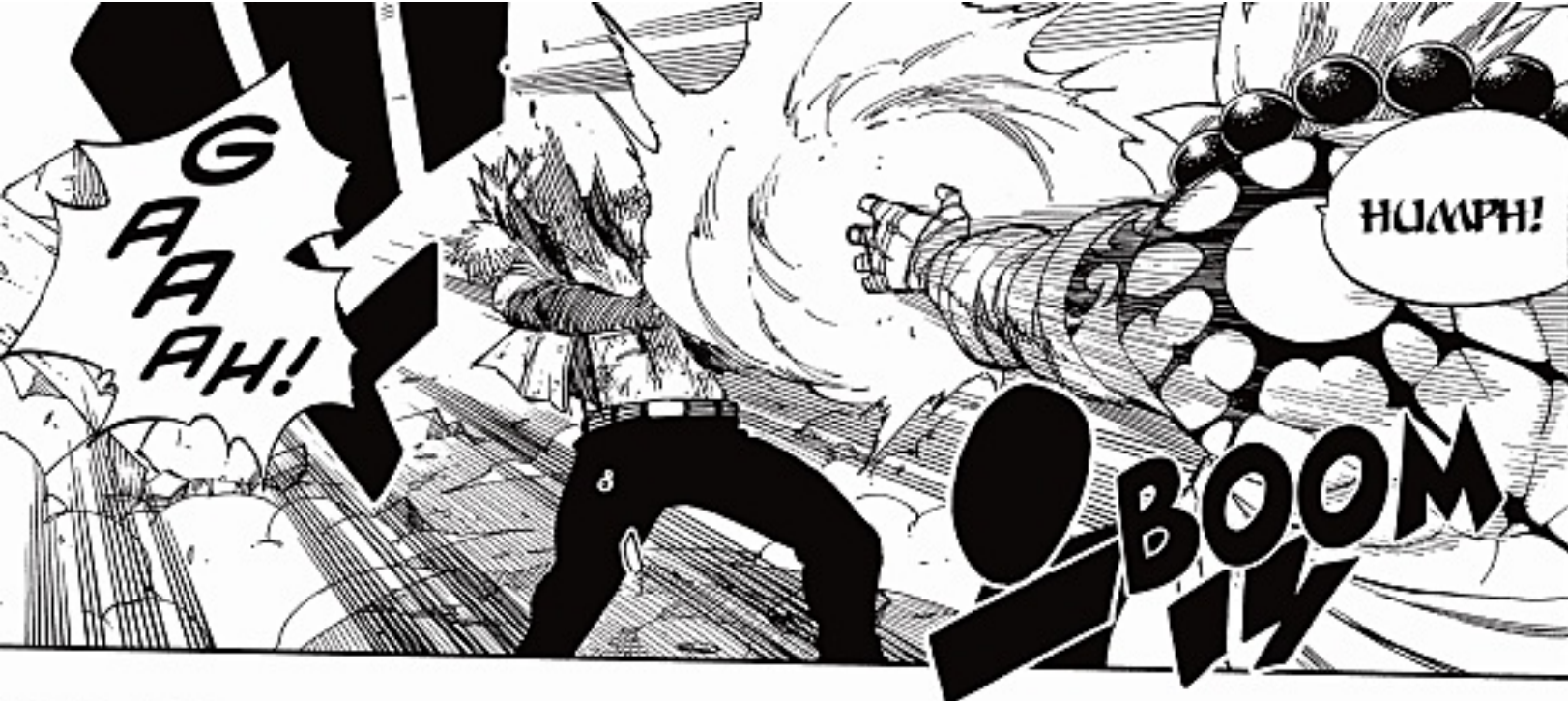
The girl
has never
been of
much
use!!



She was
simply a
vessel to
continue
my line, the
strongest of
bloodlines—







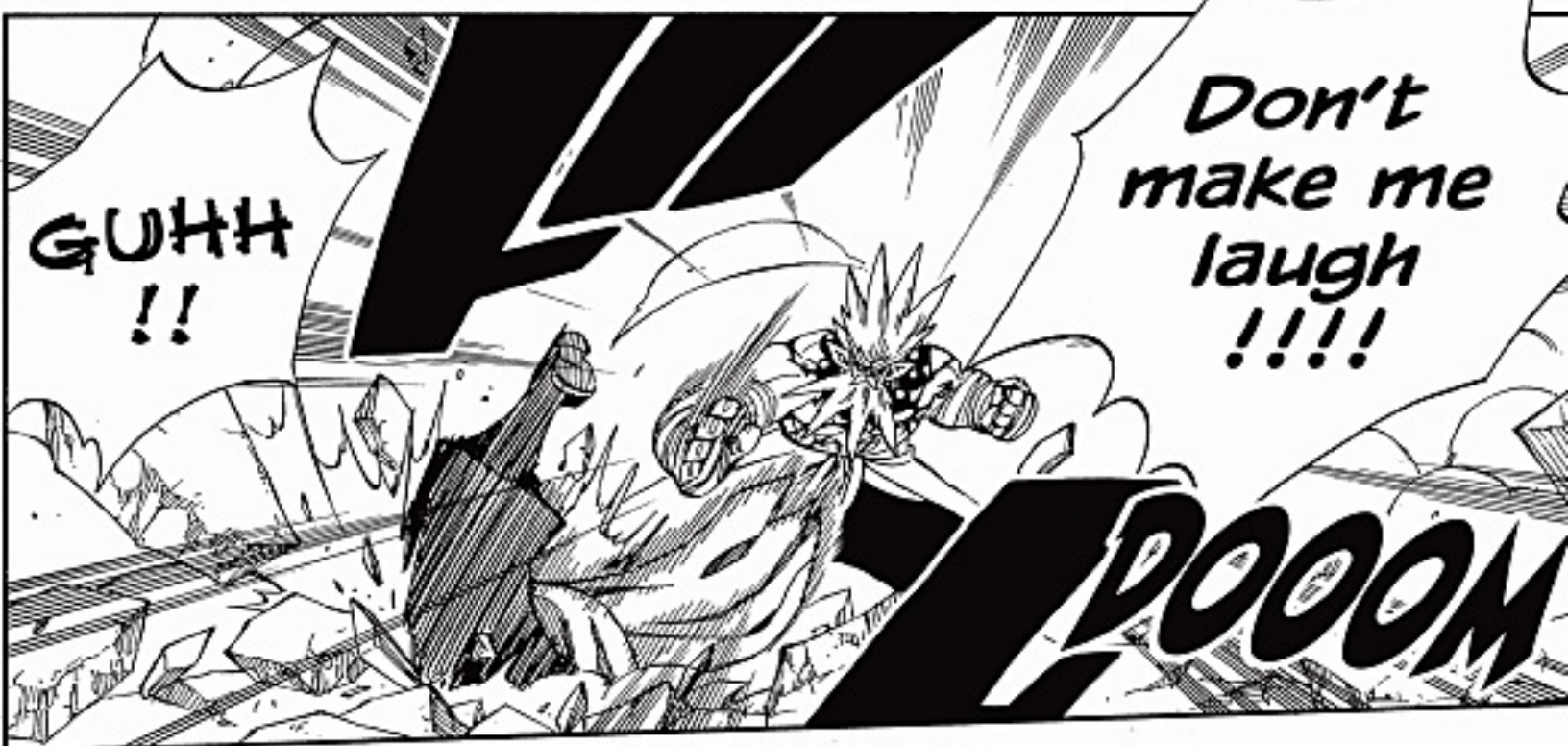


All we did is
return it to
what a guild
ought to be...



Argh
...

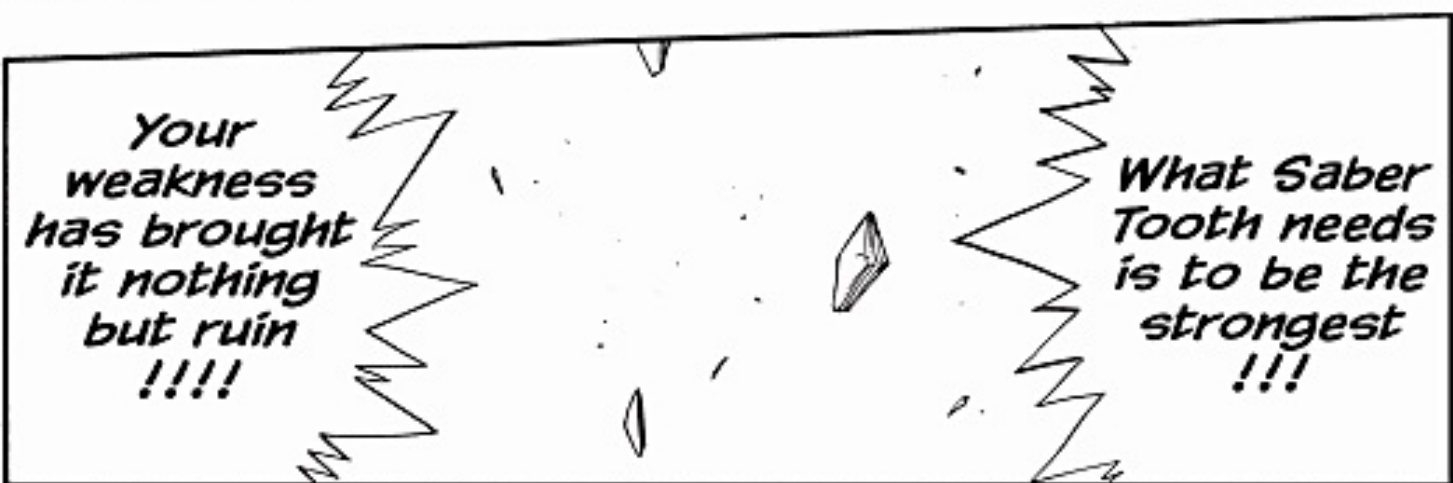
You little wimps
think you can
take control of
Saber Tooth?!



**GUHH
!!**

**Don't
make me
laugh
!!!!**

POOOON



**Your
weakness
has brought
it nothing
but ruin
!!!!**

**What Saber
Tooth needs
is to be the
strongest
!!!**



Saber Tooth was
weak 'cause nobody
had anybody's back!
We wanna be in a
guild where everyone
matters to each
other!!



But not in
the way *you*
mean...



Yeah...
We *were*
weak...



So we
started
over from
scratch!!



A strong
guild in its
true sense!



...have
got to
go!!!



And
that's
why you...



**Ah ha ha ha
ha ha!! A
truly strong
guild?!**

**Allow me to
enlighten
you...there
is no such
thing!!!**

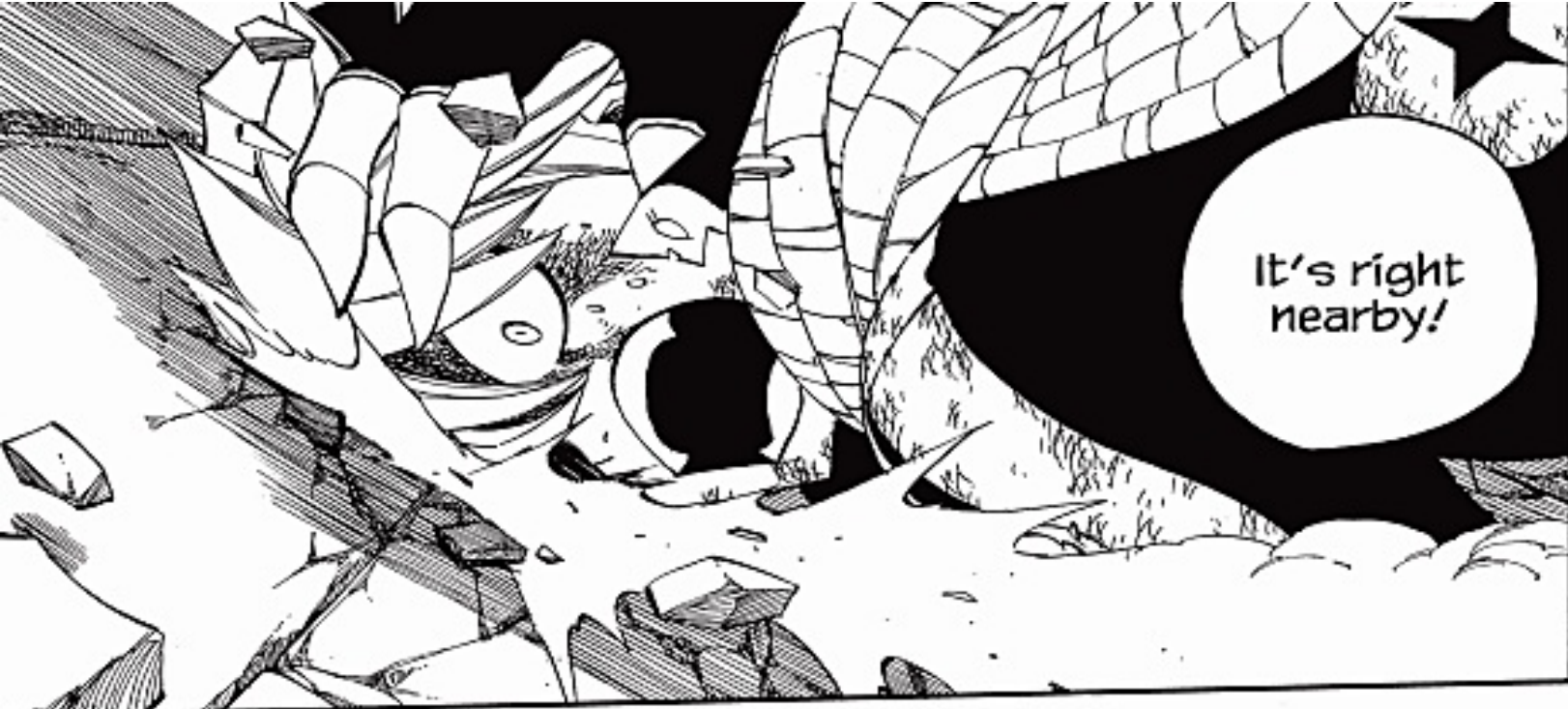
**Strength only
comes to the
individual!!!!
And only with
an iron will
like mine!!!!**



No...

**There is
a guild
that's
truly
strong!!!**

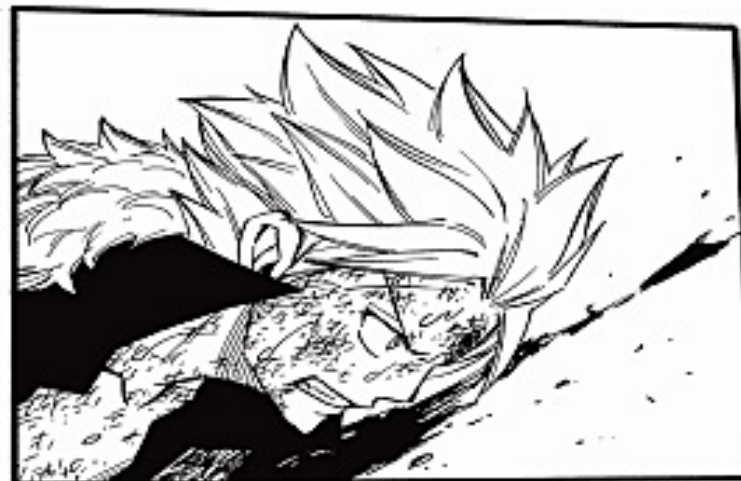




**GAHH
!!**

**You
pathetic
fools!!!!**

ZLATSSS!!



**The
weakest
of the
weak
!!!!**



**A strong
man stands
alone! Those
who rely
on others
are weak,
weak, weak,
weak!!!!**



**Love brings
meaning to
our lives!!!!**

**I don't
care!!!
We're living
for the
sake of our
friends!!**



**...to be
strong!!!!**

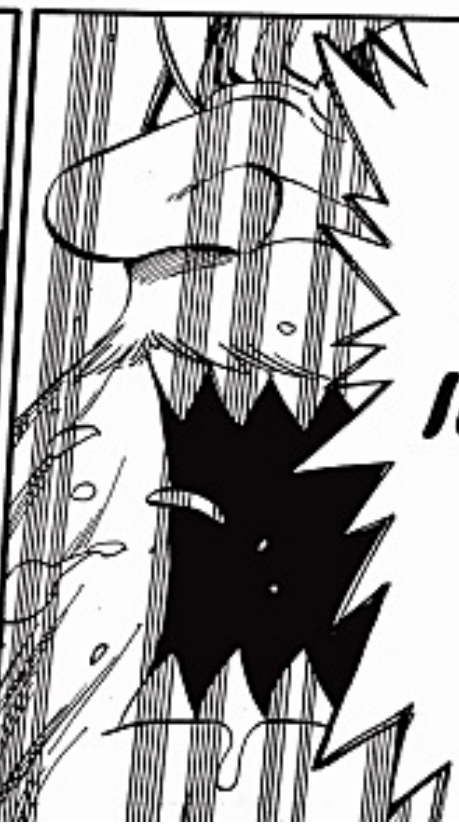
**Fairy Tail
has shown
us the real
way...**



**...with
thread of
white and
black!!!!**



**We're going
to sew up that
warped wound
in your soul...**



**Siiiiii-
leence
!!!!**





**HAKUEI-
RYŪ NŌ
ASHIGINŪ***

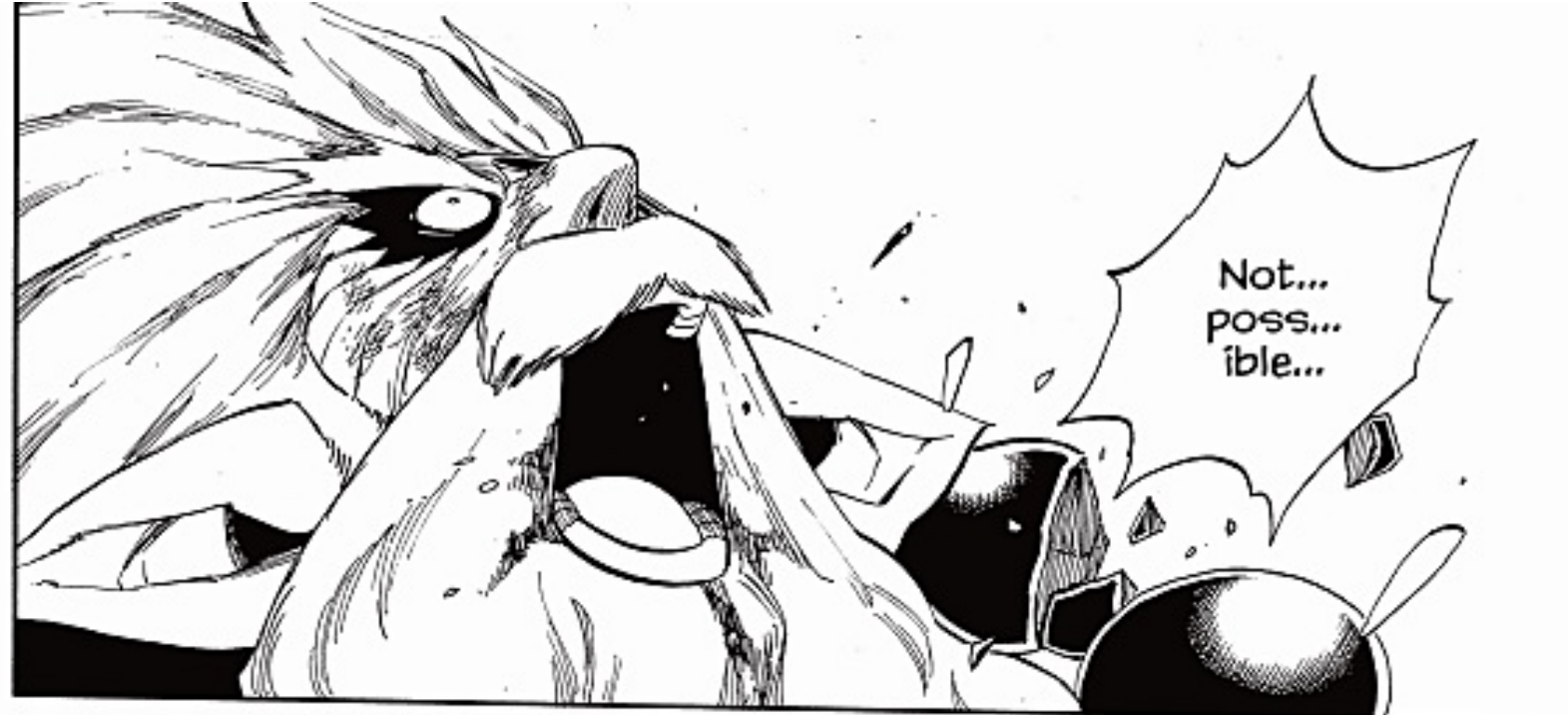
!!!

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

**A
A
A
!!**



**Right
!!!!**

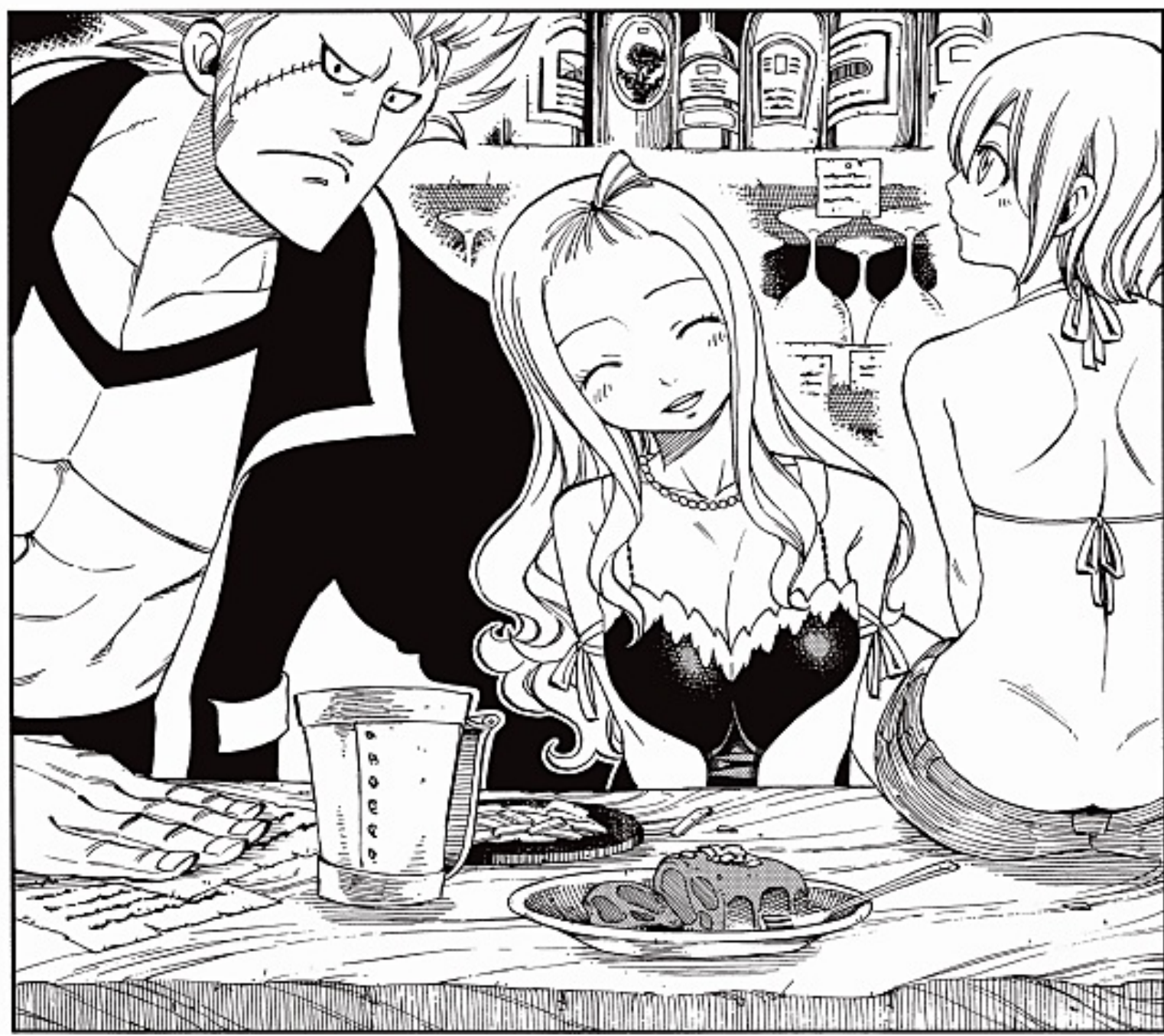


BOOOOM

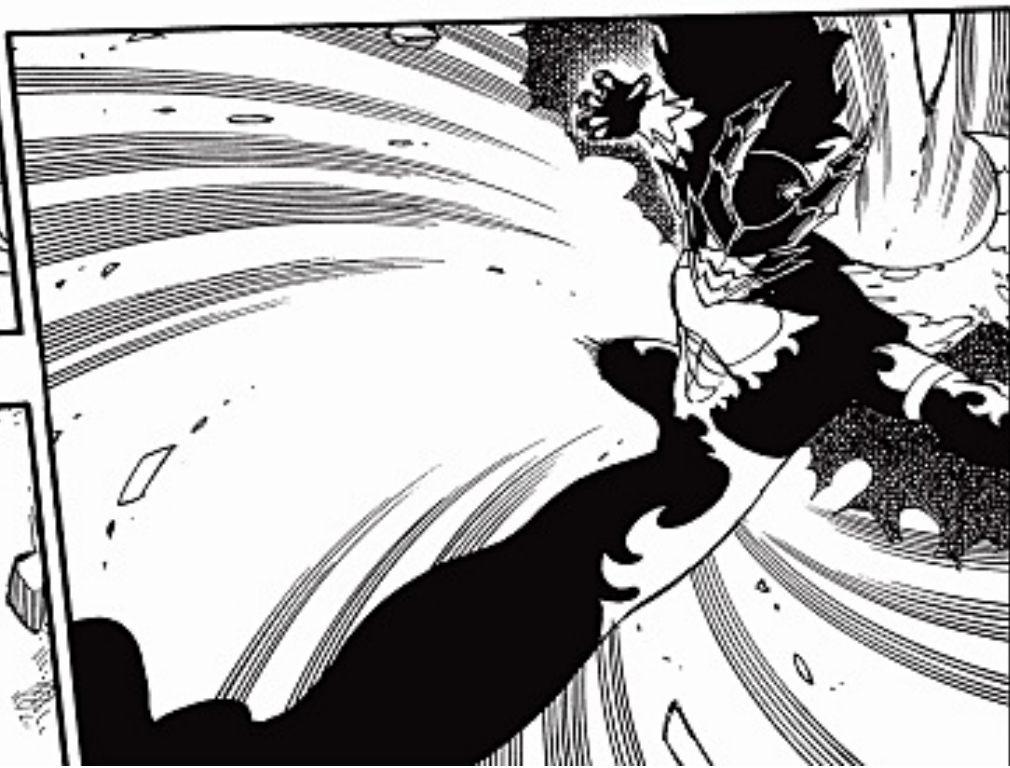
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

Chapter 410: Memento Mori





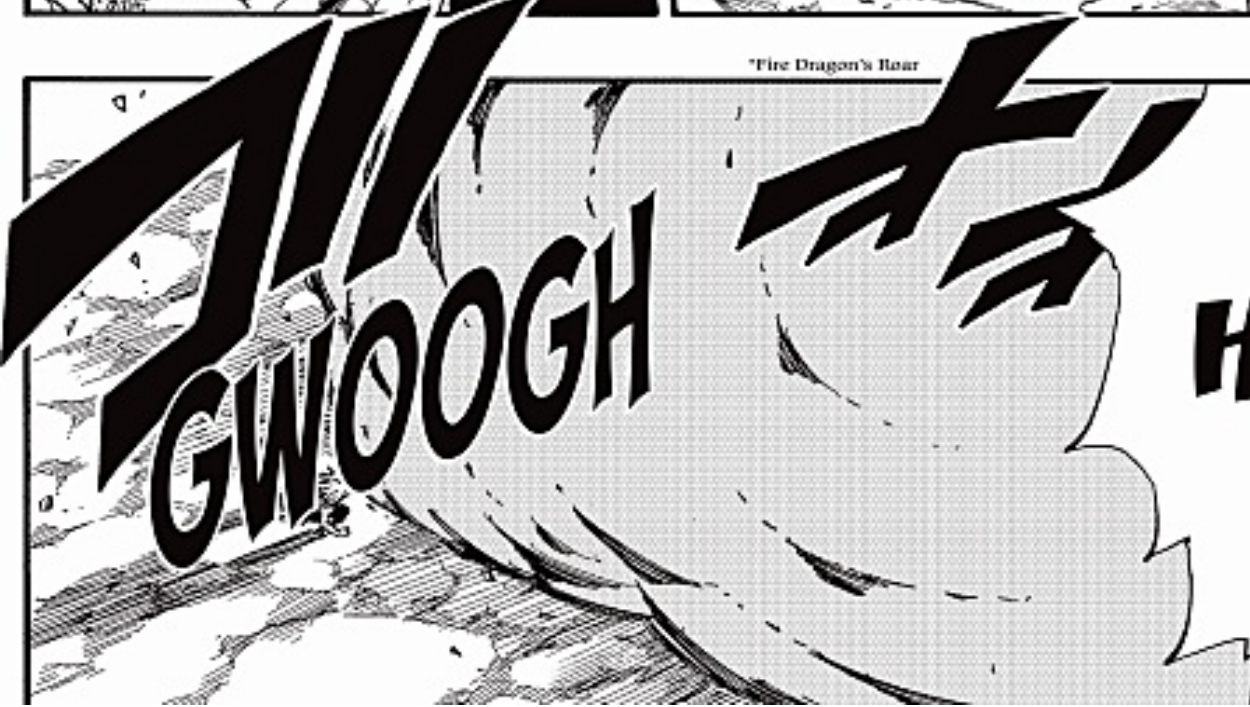




KARYO
NO...



"Fire Dragon's Roar"



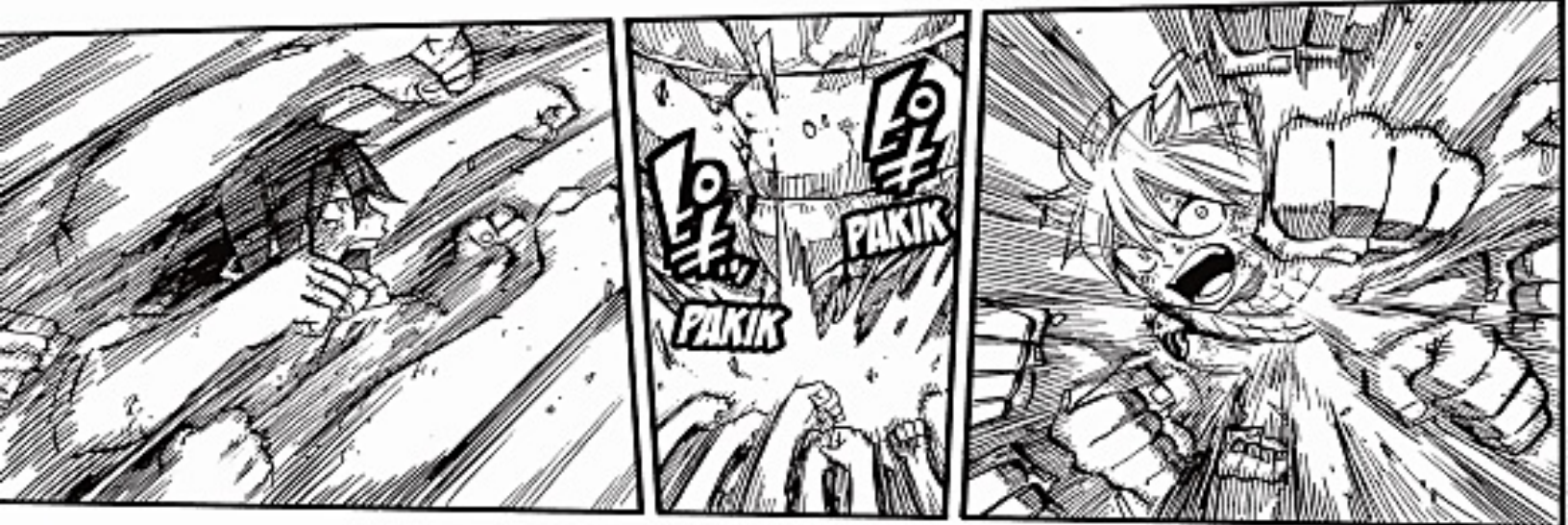
...
HÔKÔ*
!!!!



*Ice Demon's Wrath













**KARYŪ
NO
KŌEN
!!!!**

BOOOM





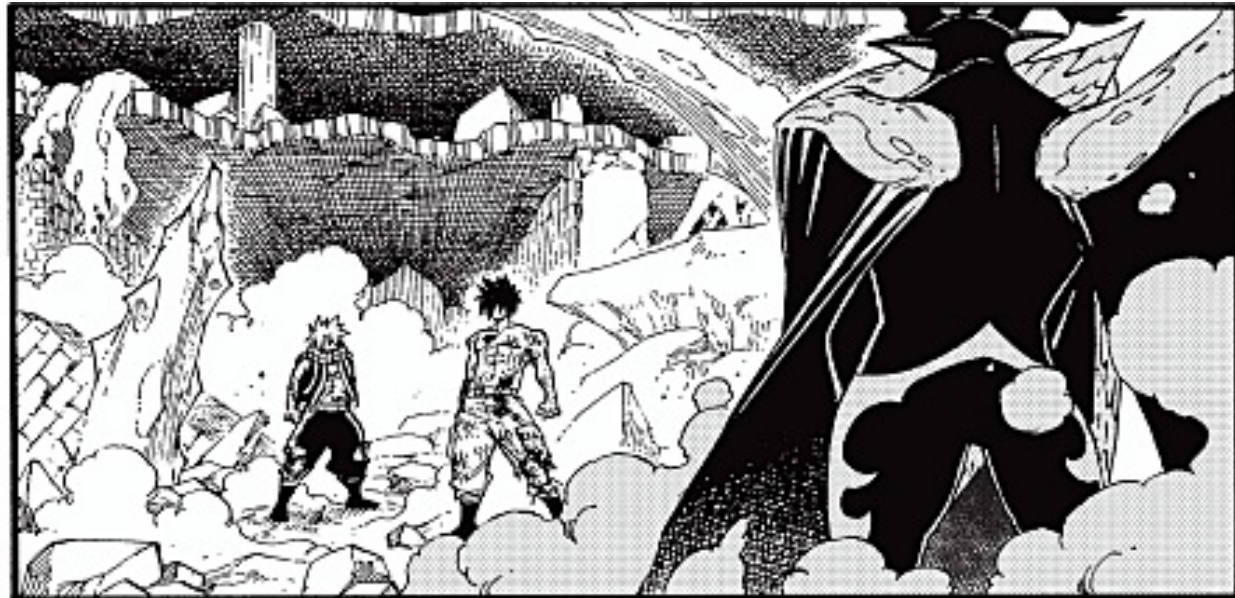
Sure he
can! If my
magic ever
hits him...

Can't this
guy die?

...human
wizards!

I have
enjoyed
this...

Long ago, all magic was one. That was the birth of magic.



Curse power!!

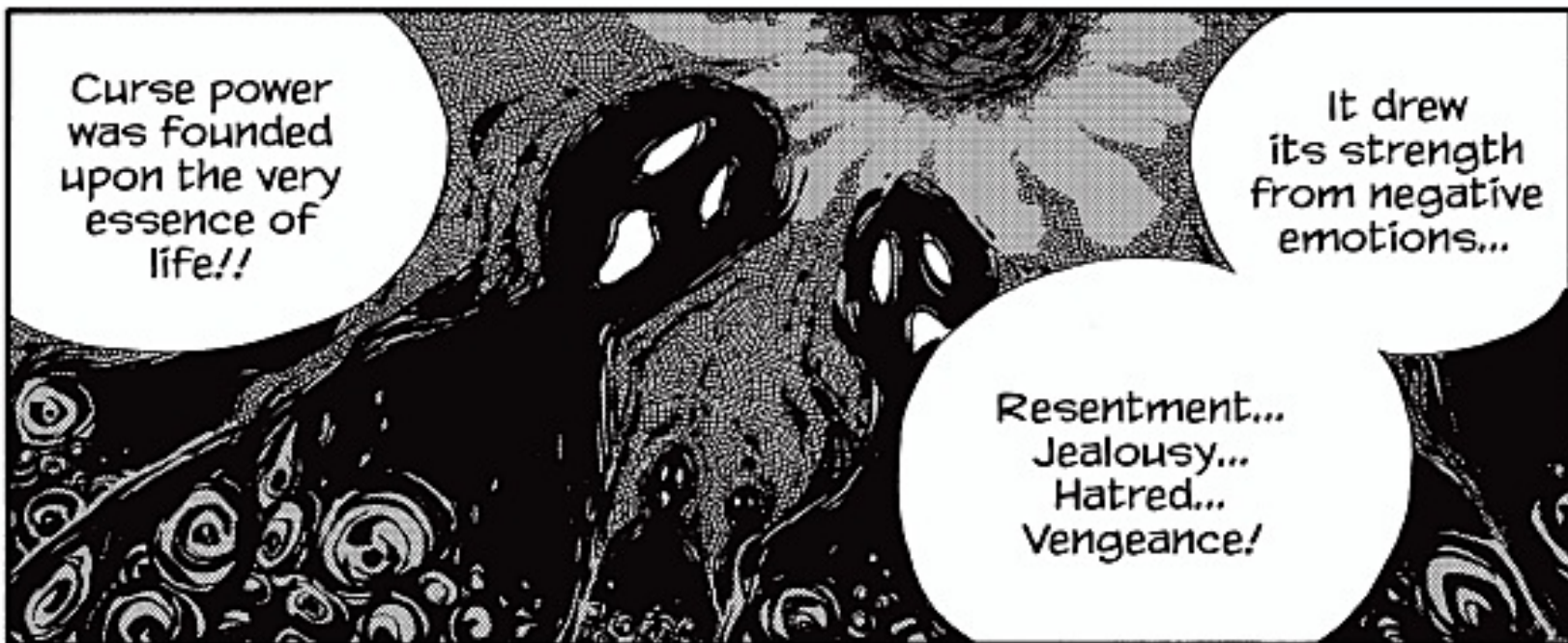


In the course of that history, END uncovered a new possibility for magic.



Eventually, it split into different kinds and classes.

Curse power was founded upon the very essence of life!!



It drew its strength from negative emotions...

Resentment...
Jealousy...
Hatred...
Vengeance!

WHOOSH

But even if
you're right,
it's *magic*
that'll take
us into the
future!!!

That's
just
stupid
!!!!

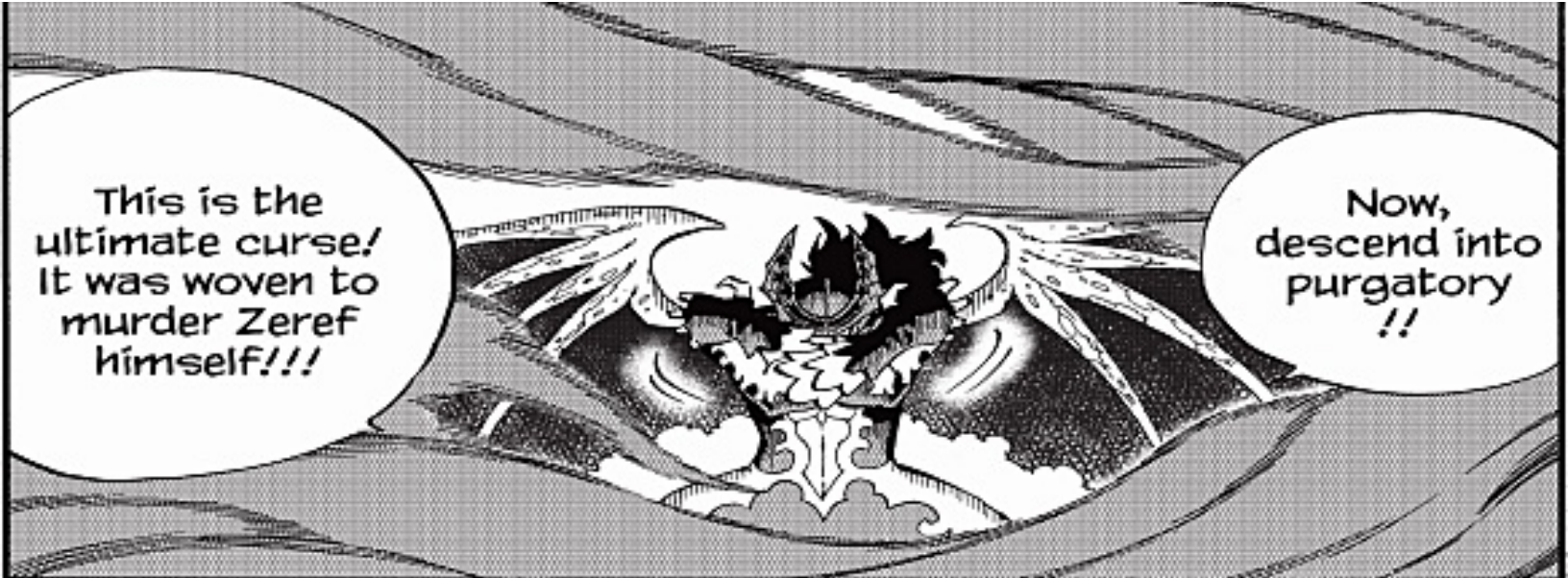
Fog?!
No...

Wh-what
is this
stuff...?

Magic *has* no
future!! *Nothing*
can rival curse
power!!

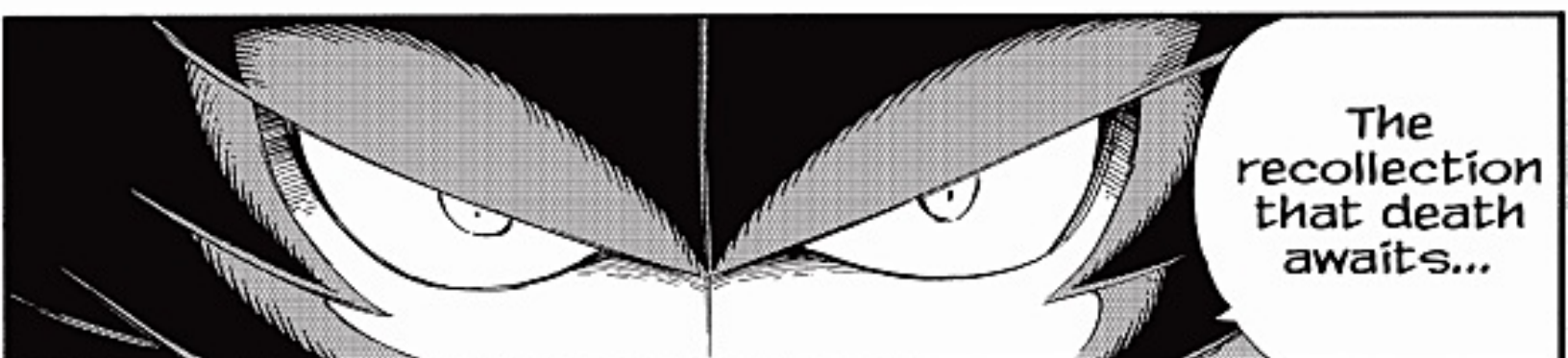
Can't
move...

My
body...



This is the
ultimate curse!
It was woven to
murder Zeref
himself!!!

Now,
descend into
purgatory
!!

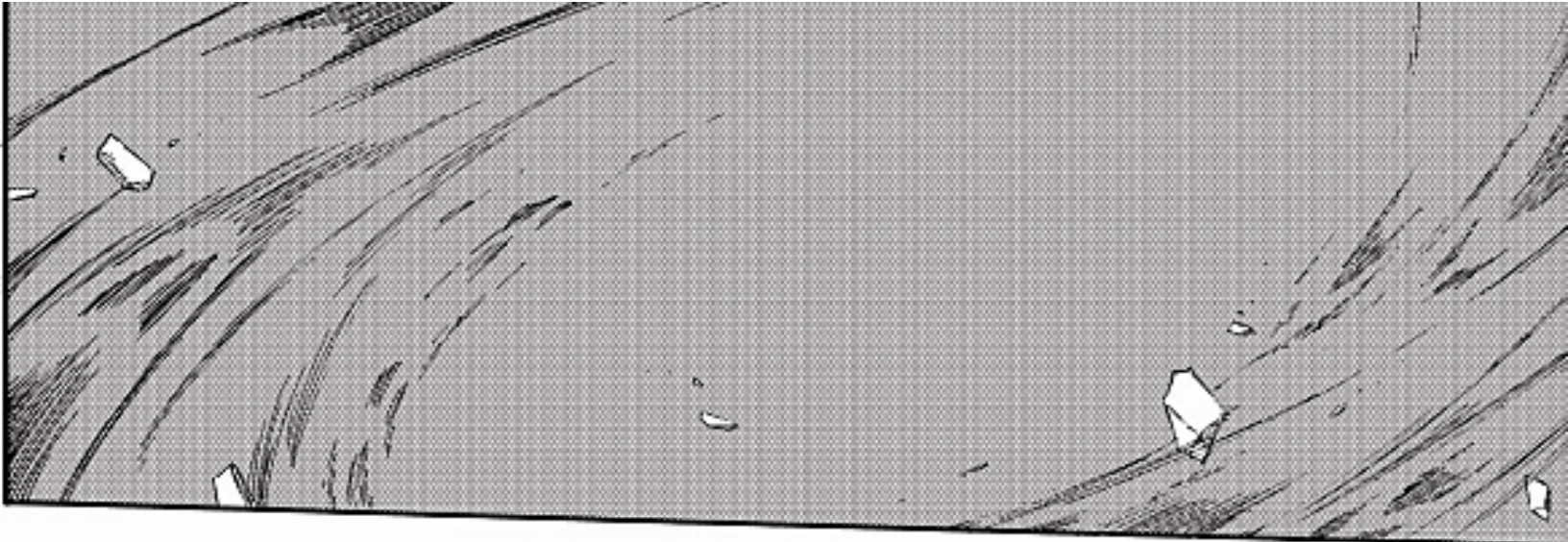






COM

**MEMENTO
MORI
!!!!**



...one must
eliminate the
very concepts
of both life and
death!!!

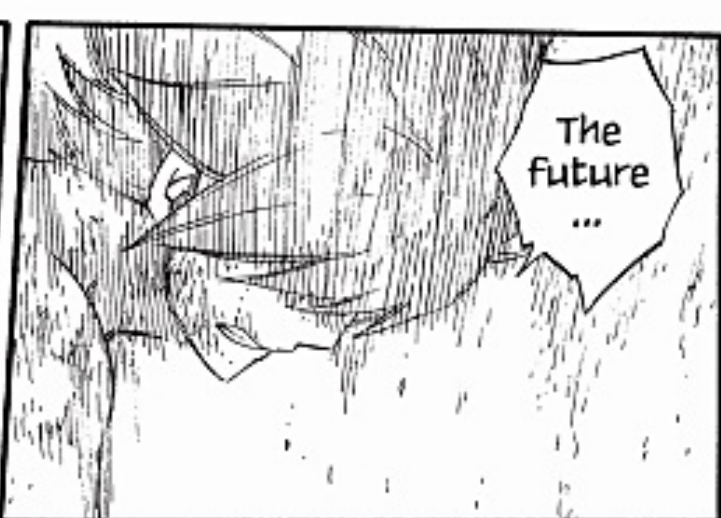


To murder
the immortal
Zeref...

They cease
to exist
entirely
!!!!

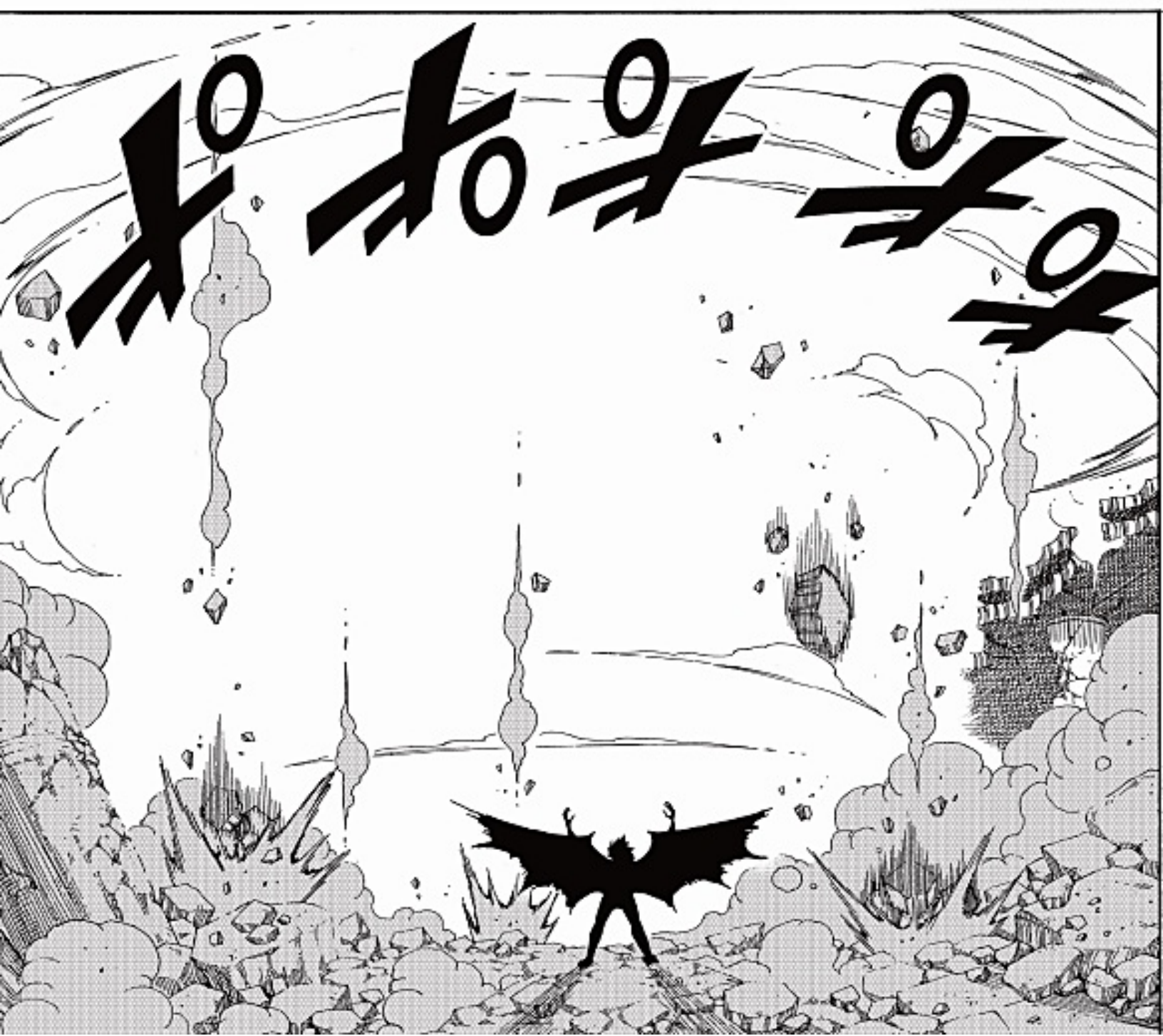


Those who fall
under this curse
are neither alive
nor dead!!!



...forever
!!!!

You will be
obliterated
into
nothing
...





I have
completed it.
The ultimate
curse, Memento
Mori.

FULLM



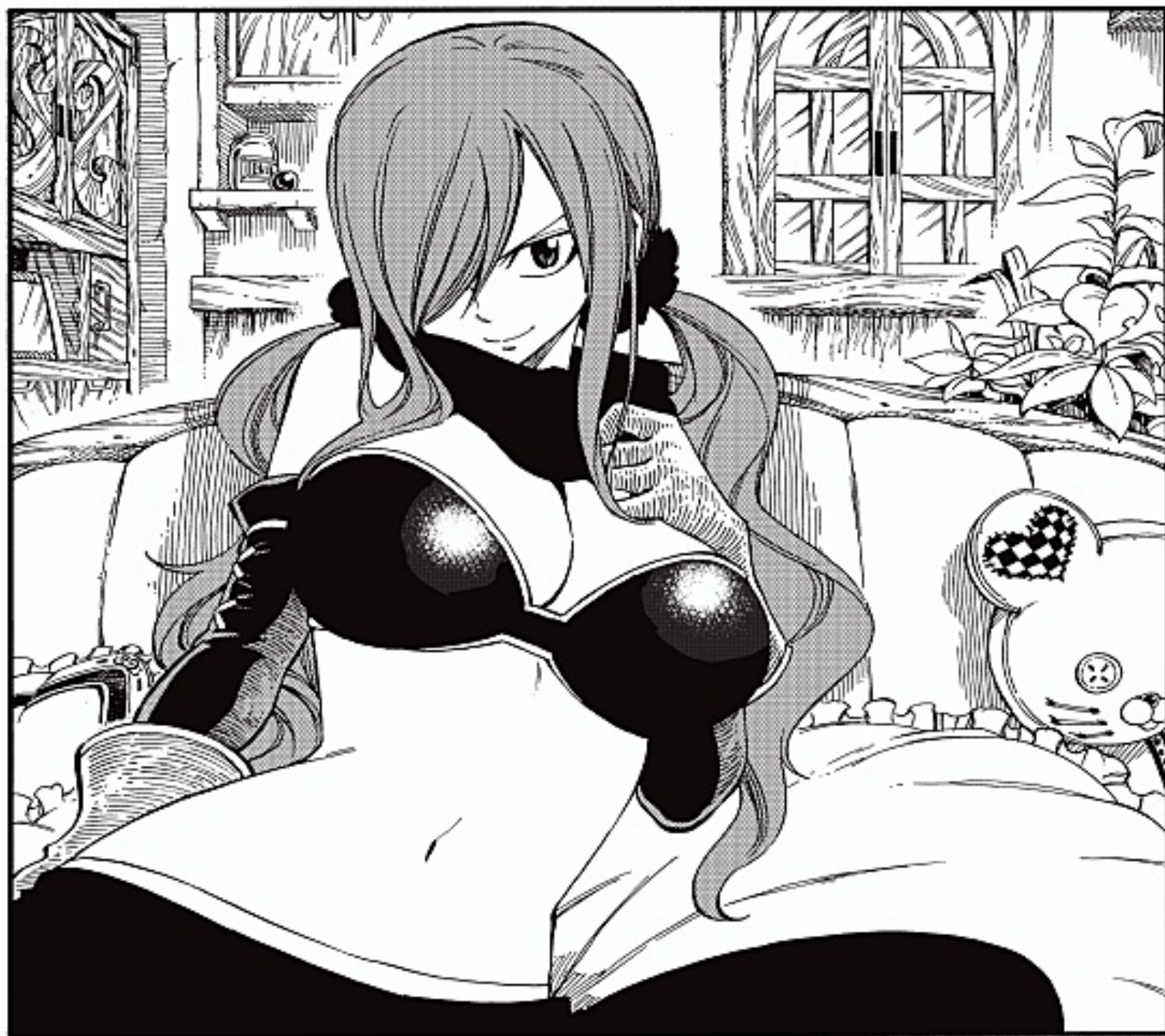
...and to
kill you,
Zeref.

All that
remains is
to resurrect
END...

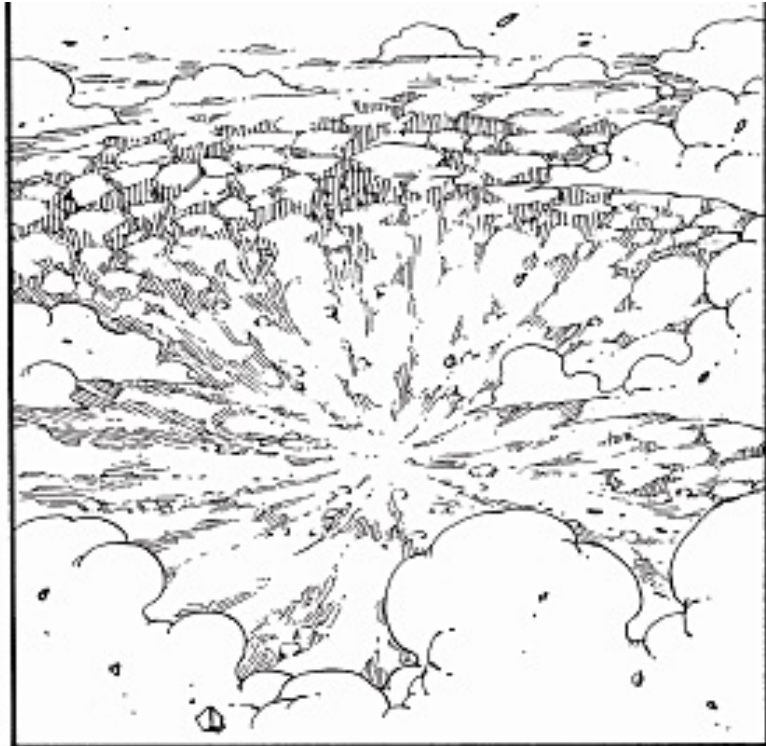
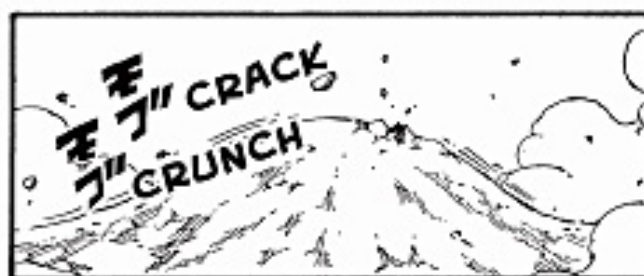
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

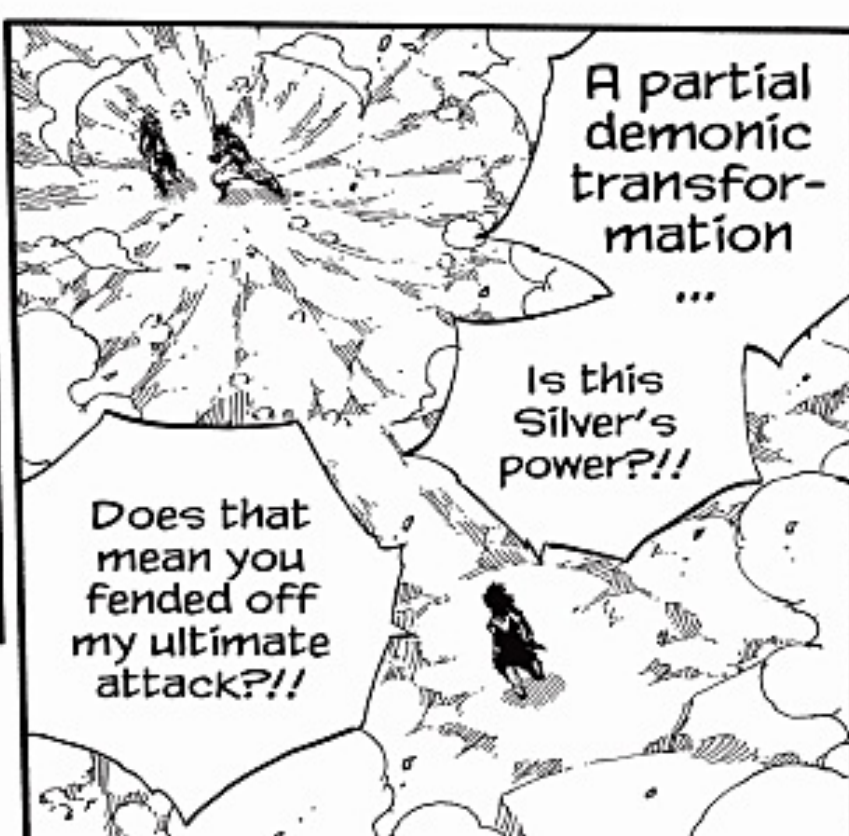
Chapter 411: To Respond in Kind









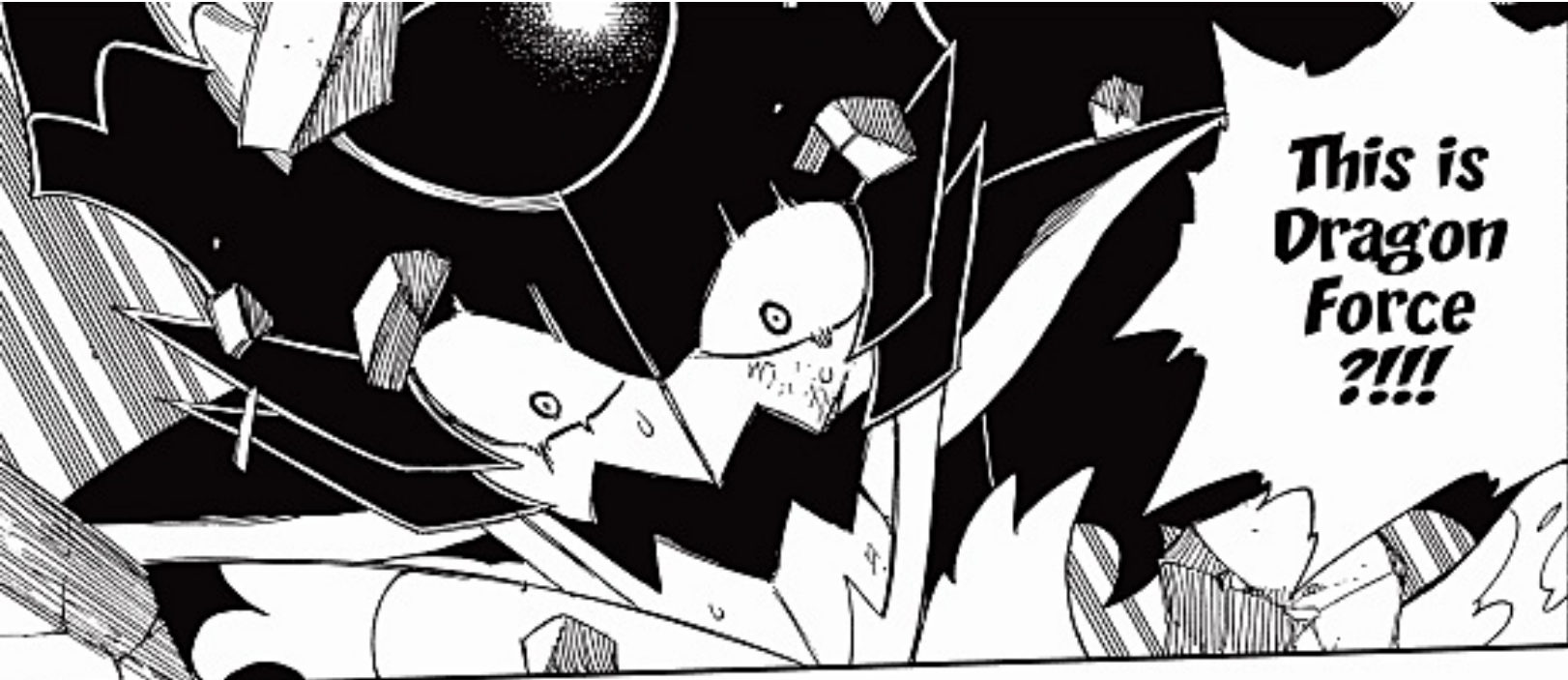












**This is
Dragon
Force
?!!!**



**I learned it
from Igneel
himself
!!!!**

**DRAGON
SLAYER
SECRET
ATTACK...**



**SHIRANUI-
GATA
!!!!**



GA

AA

AA

AA

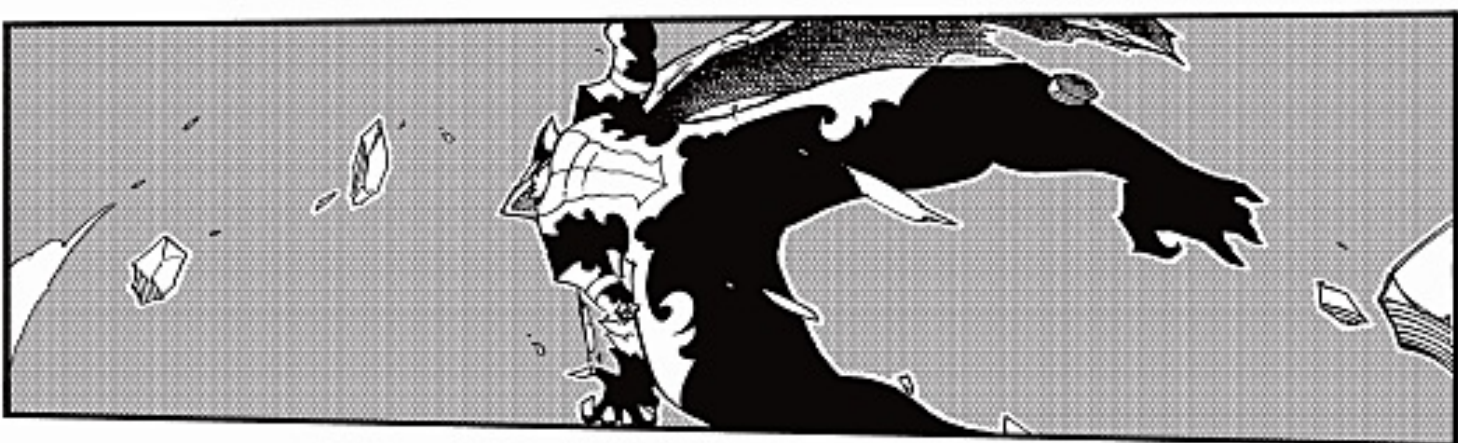
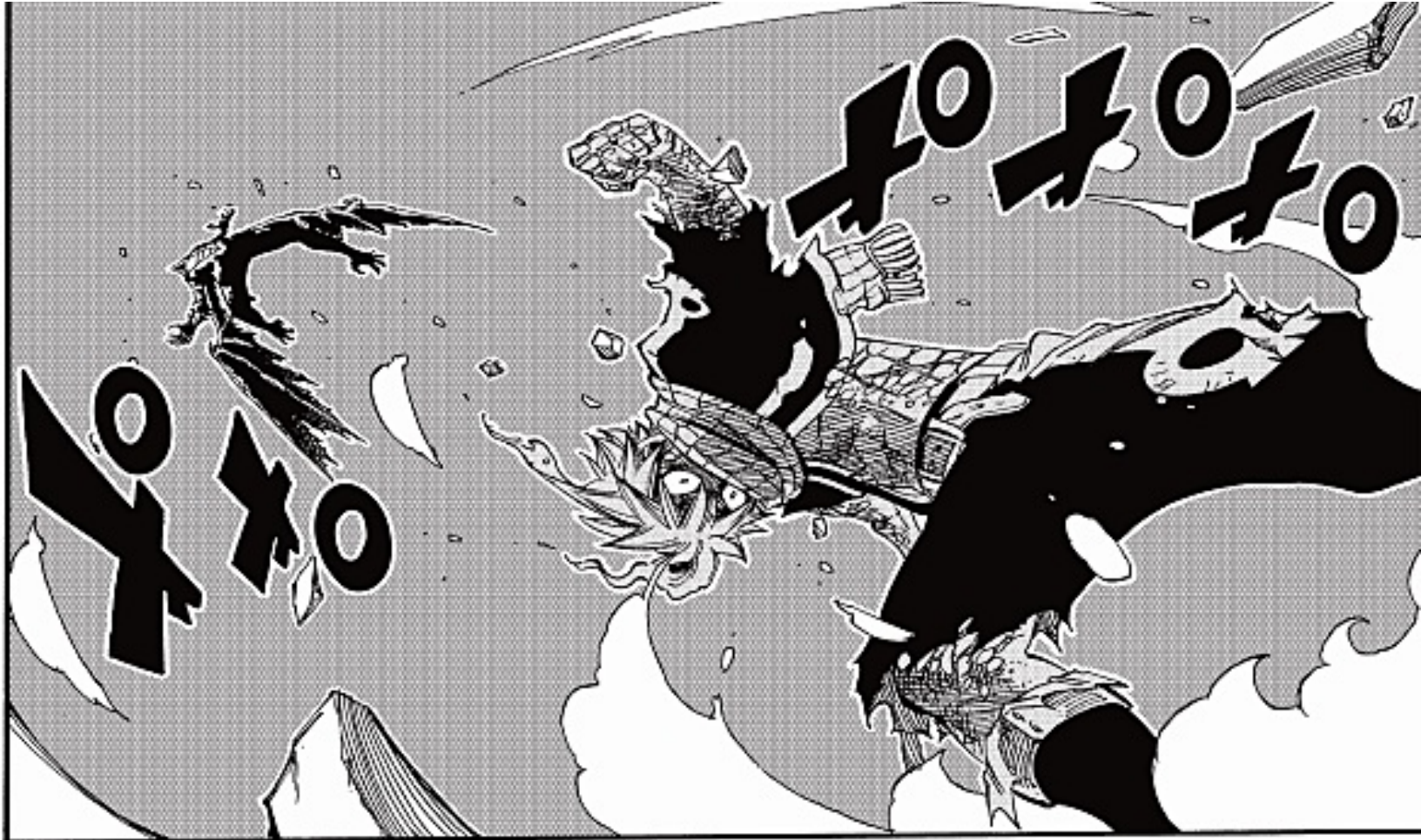
AA

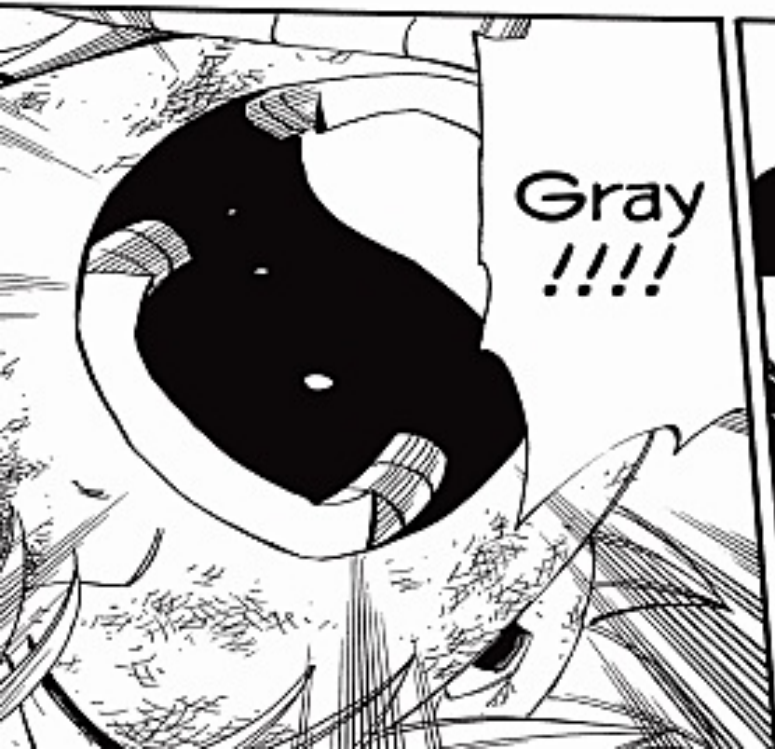
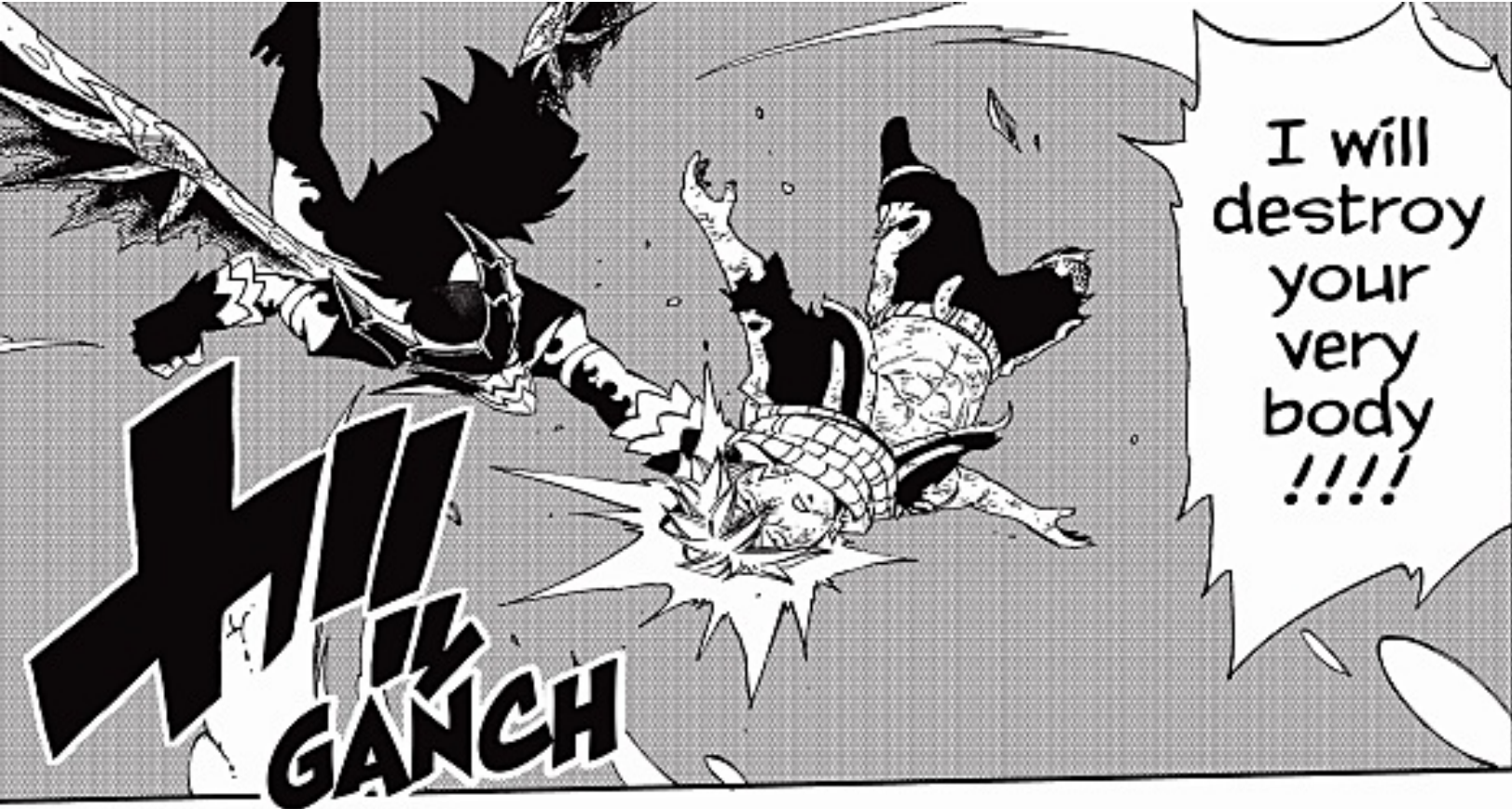
AA!!



GUREN
Hôô
KEN*
!!!!

BWOGHON



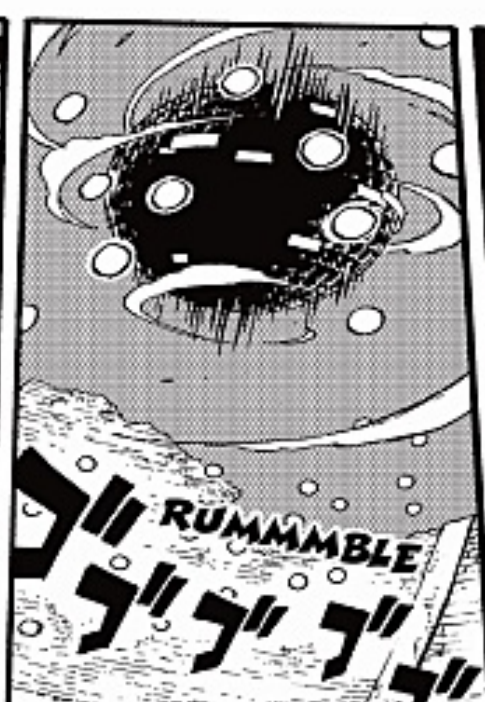
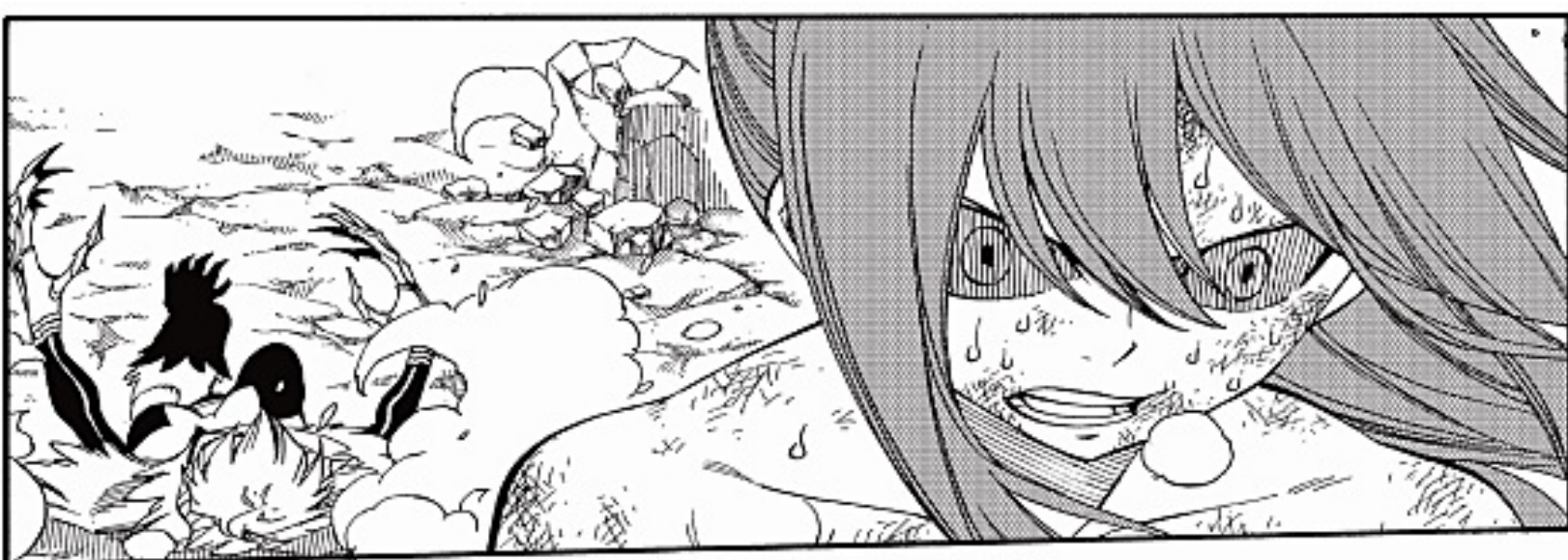


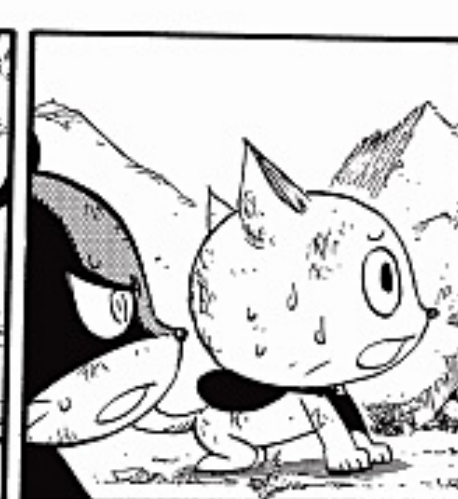
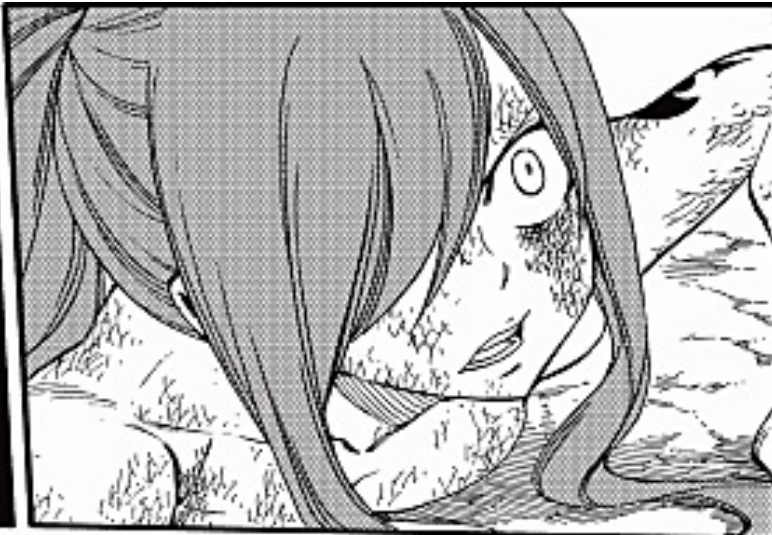




**HYÔMA
ZERO NO
HAKYÔ*
!!!!**











Chapter 412: Soaring in Ishgal



Oh, yeah!
The book!

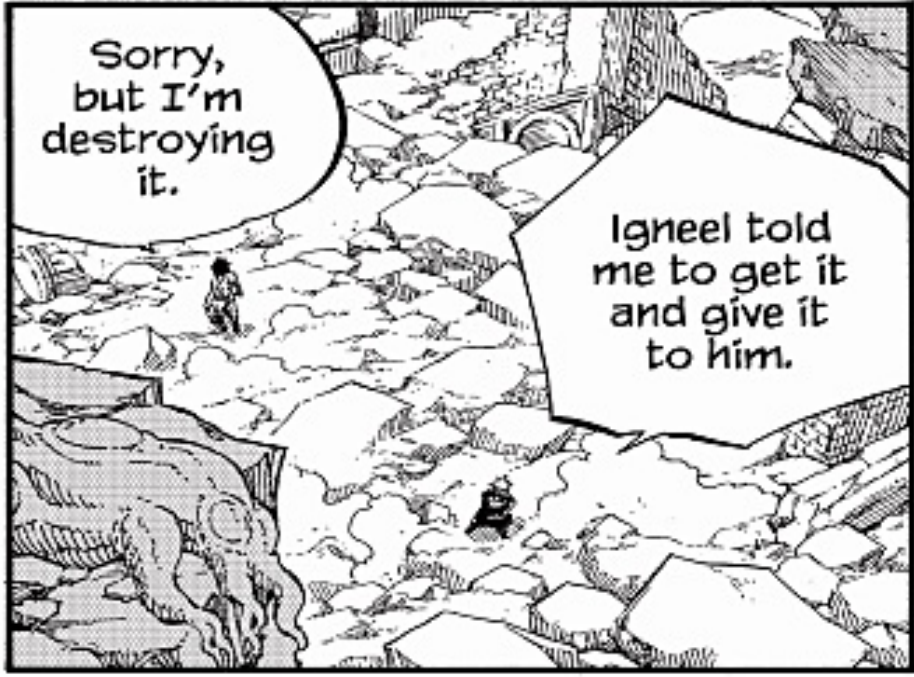


I still...
have to
eliminate
END.

No... It's
not over
yet.



You jerk!
Don't give
me that
crap!!



Sorry,
but I'm
destroying
it.

Igneel told
me to get it
and give it
to him.



I made a
promise to
Igneel!



And it's the
ultimate
volume in
the Book of
Zeref.

We gotta
destroy it
while we still
can!

You're the
one spouting
crap!

This is
the creep
that made
Tartaros!

No.

Hand it over!!



What is that?!

It's...



RUMMMMMBBLE

!!

!!

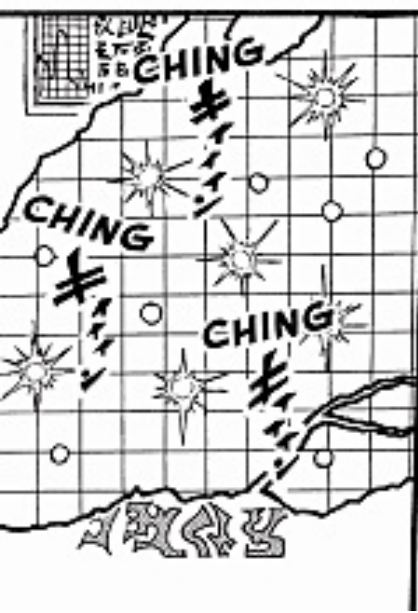
!!

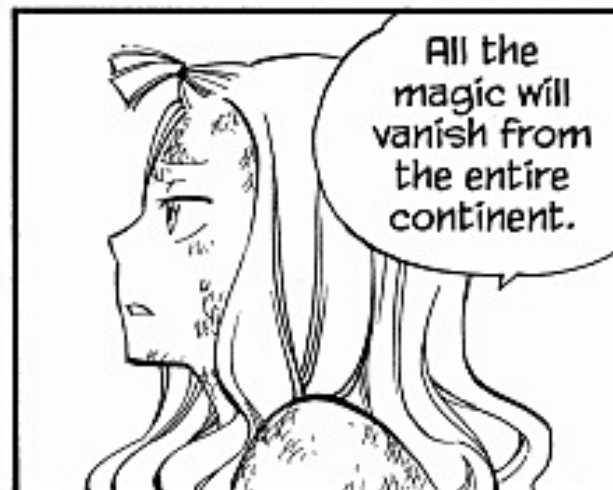
!!

!!

!!

!!









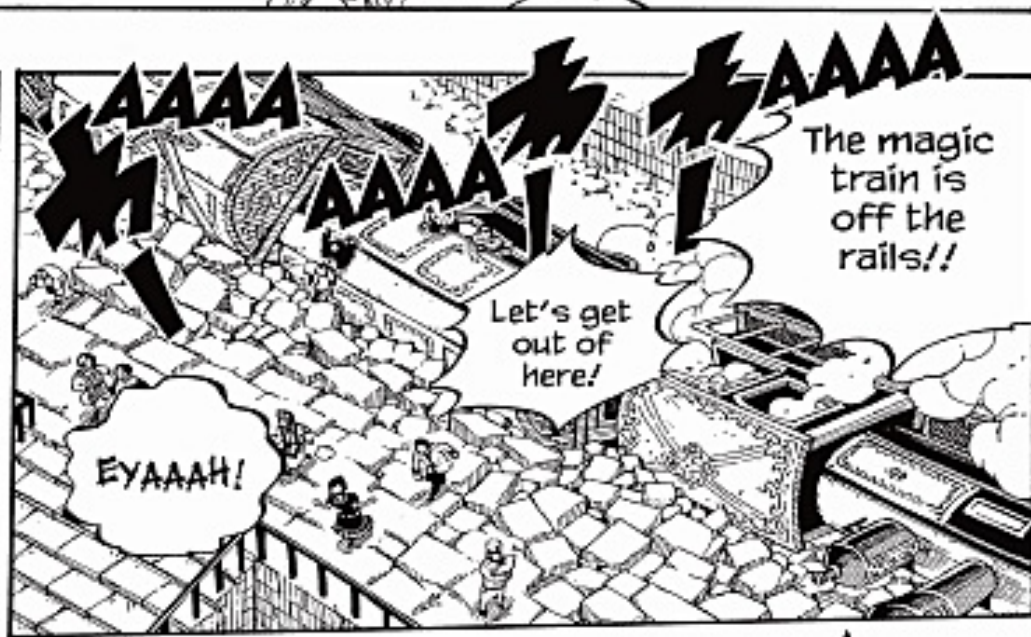
This
feeling...



My
strength is
fading...

I can't
use
magic!!

Does that
giant face
thing have
something to
do with it?!



EYAAAH!

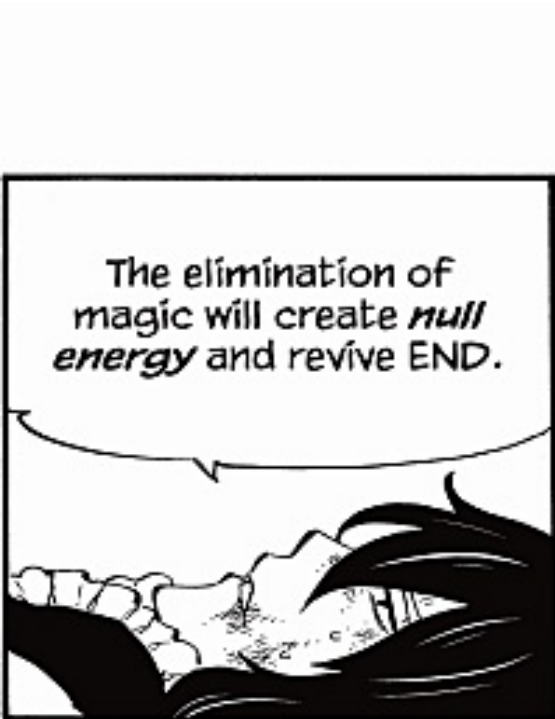
Let's get
out of
here!

The magic
train is
off the
rails!!

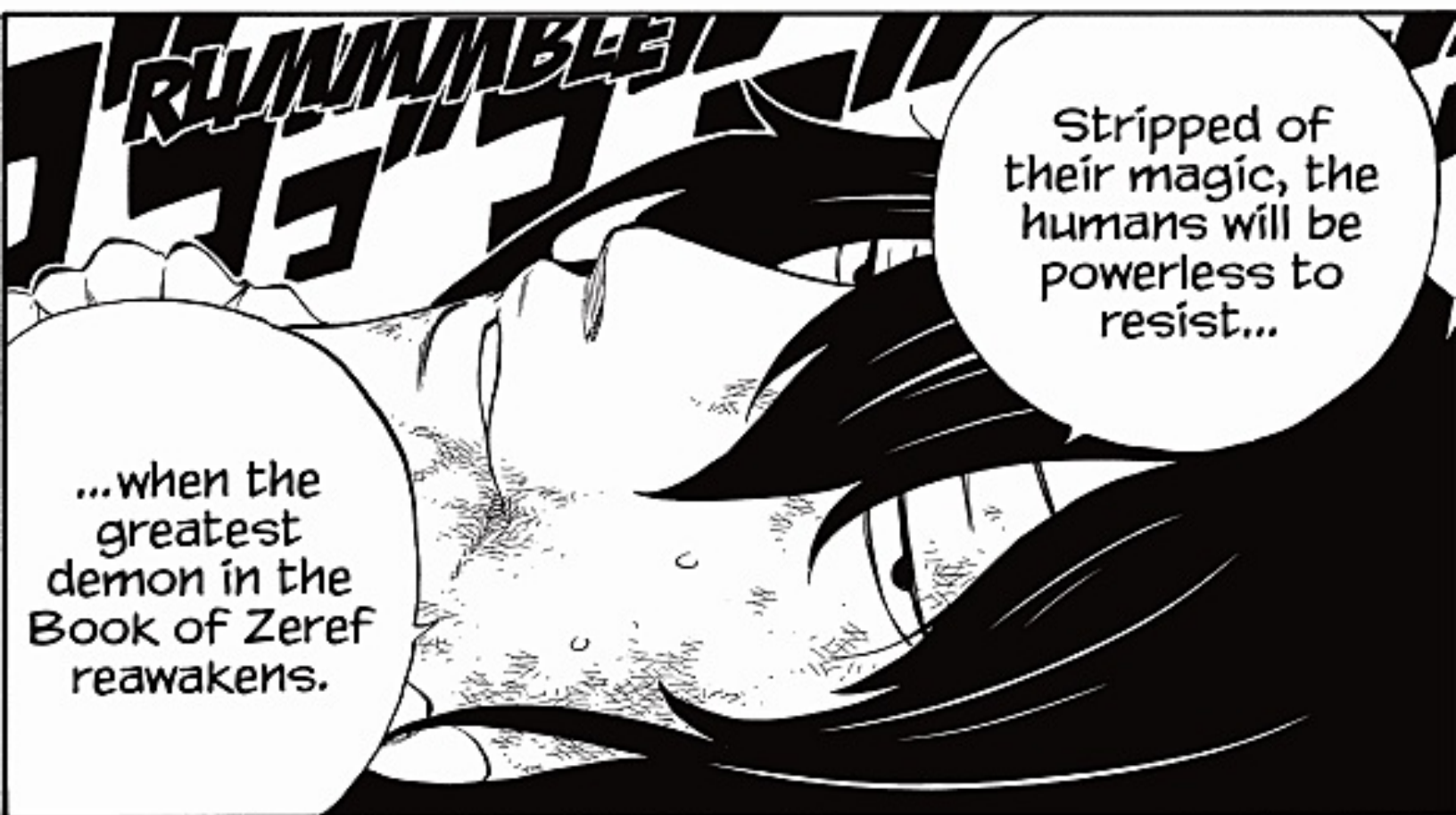


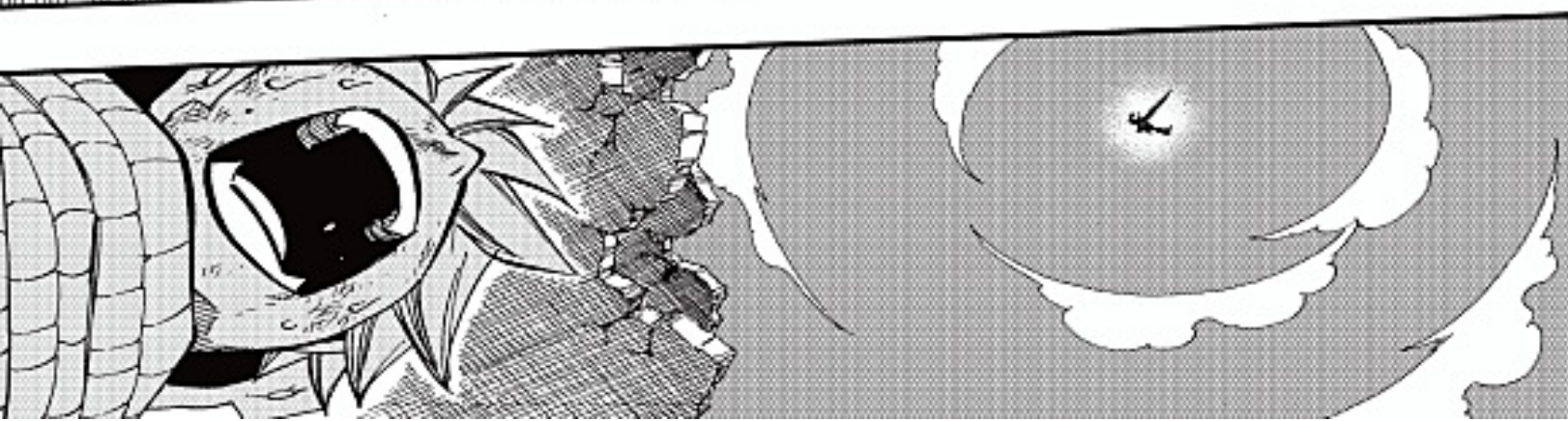
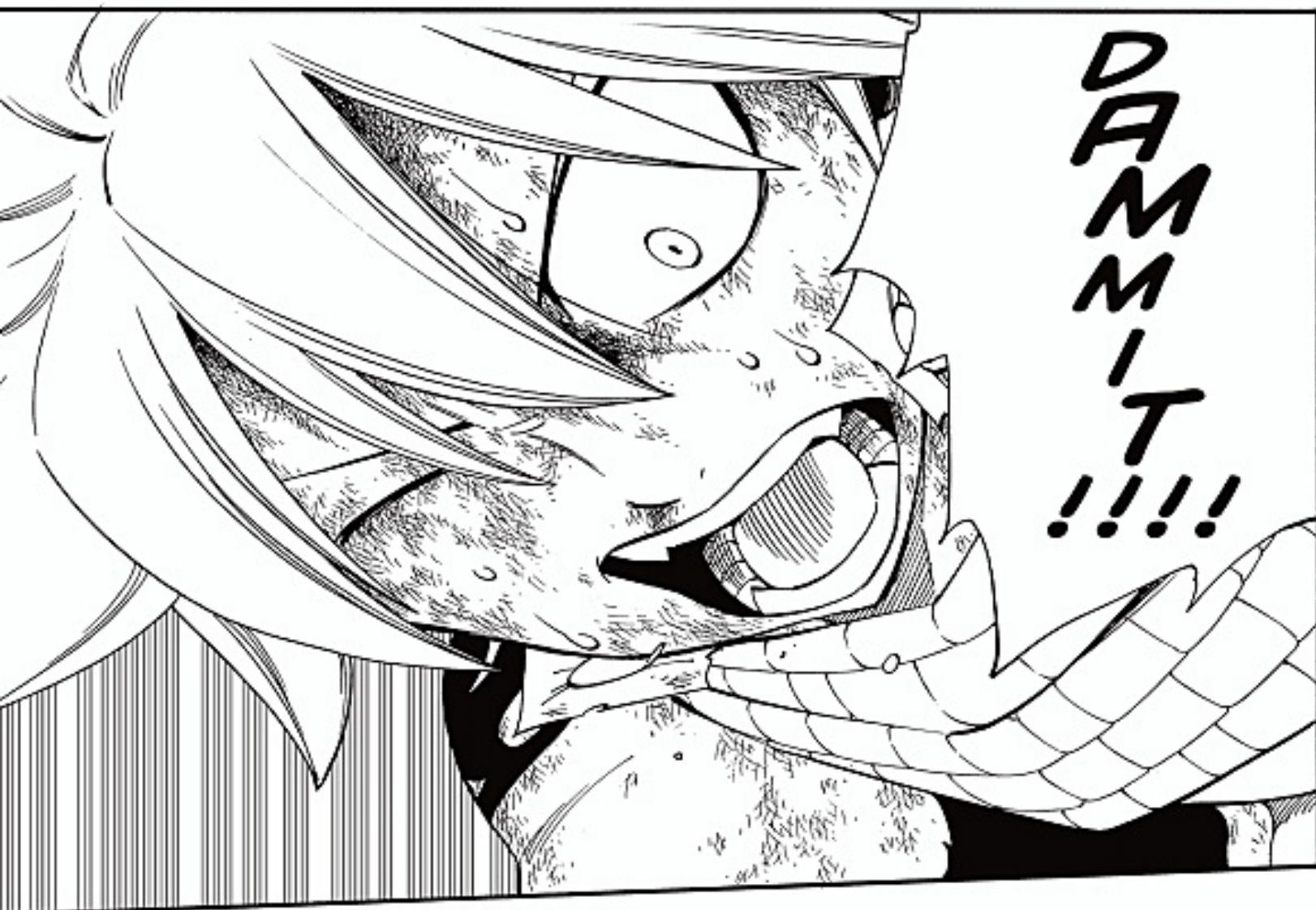
The
town's
fire is
out!!

Why can't
I use my
lacríma
anymore?!



The elimination of magic will create *null energy* and revive END.



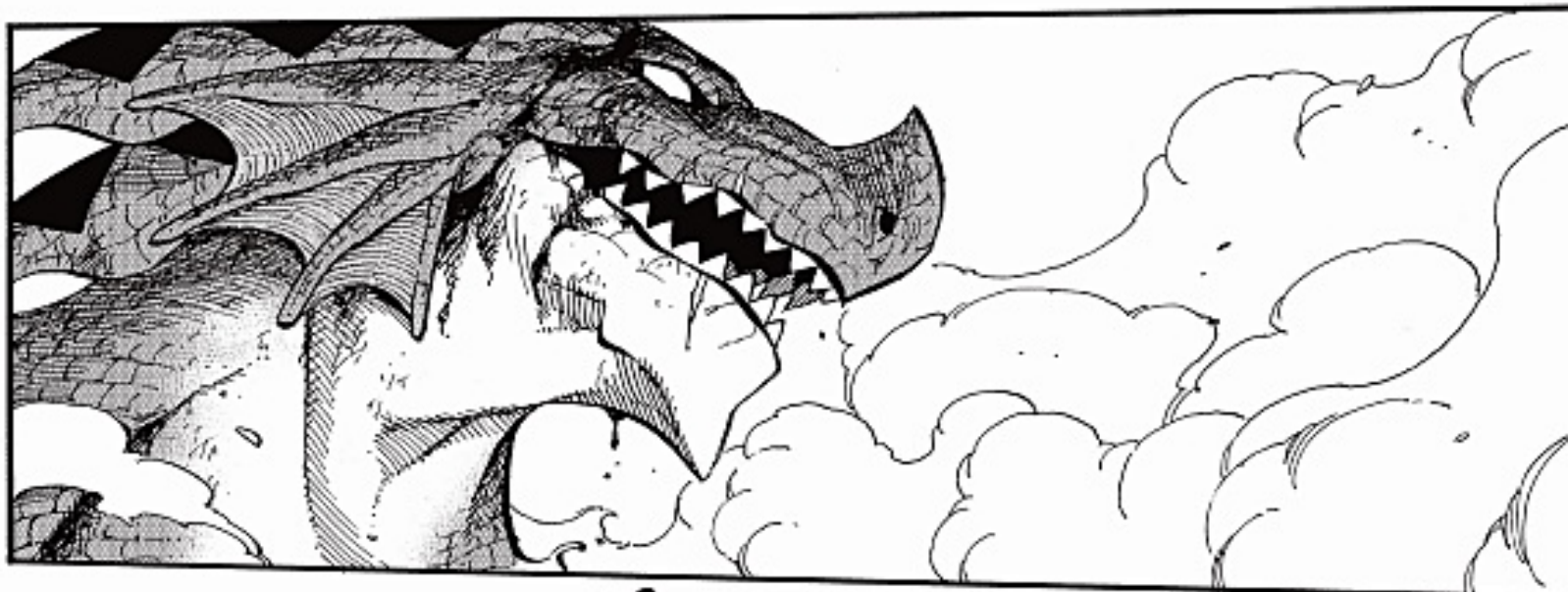




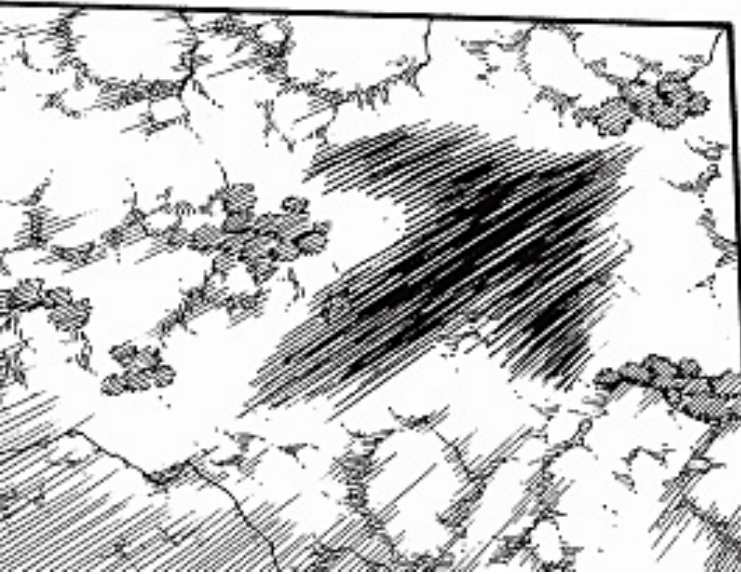


**Never
give
up!!!**

**Humans
!!!**







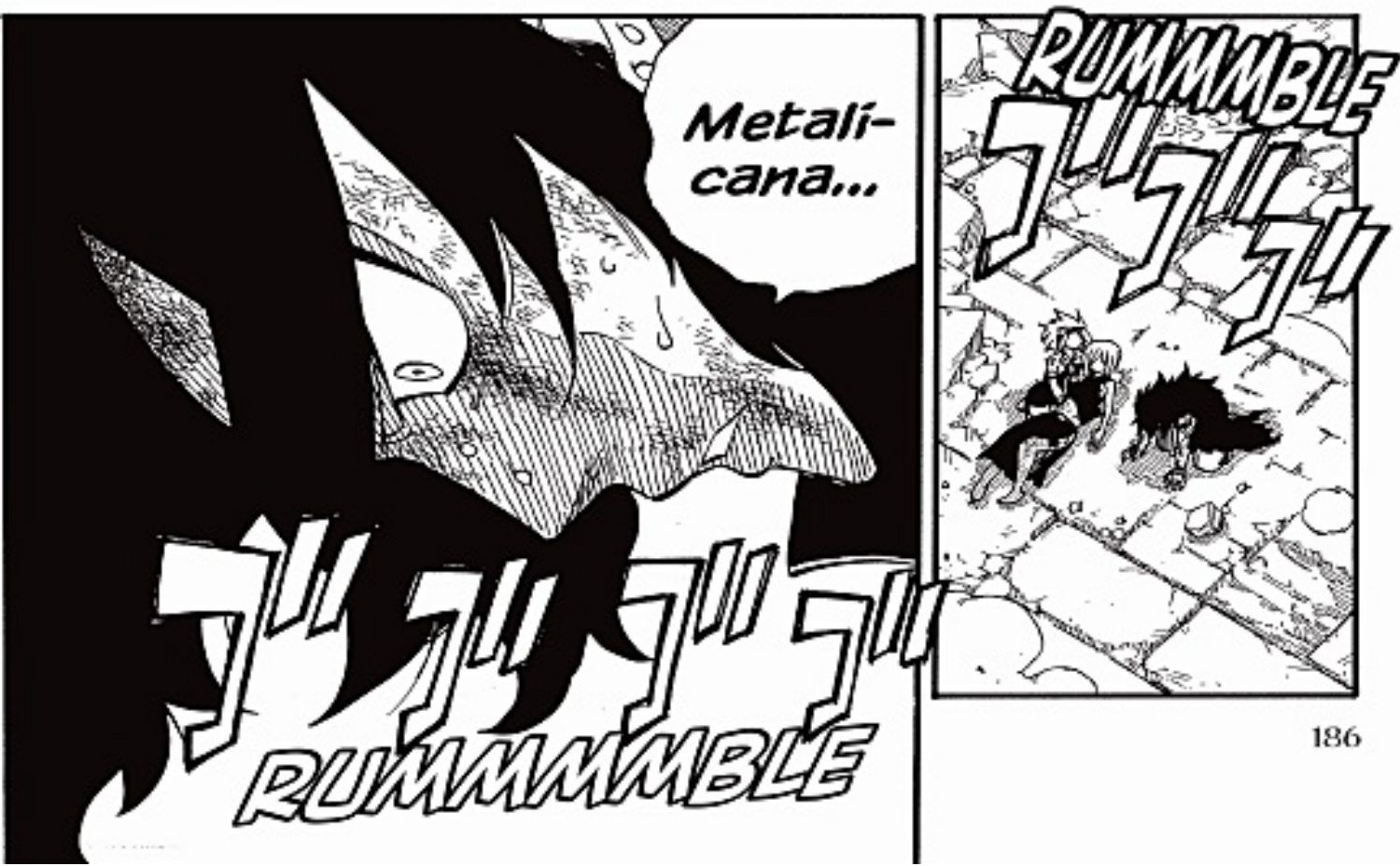


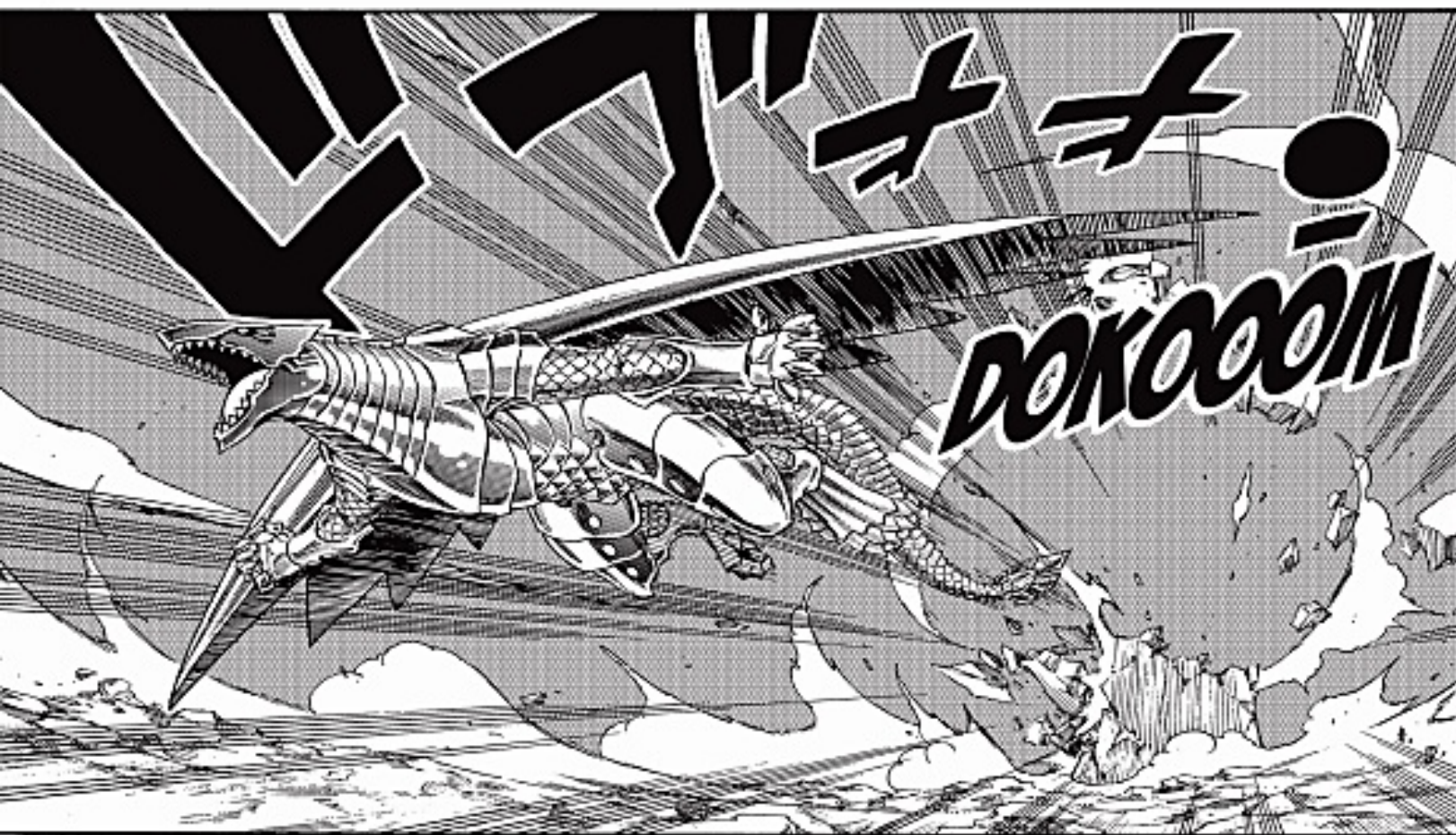




*Grandeeneey
...?!*







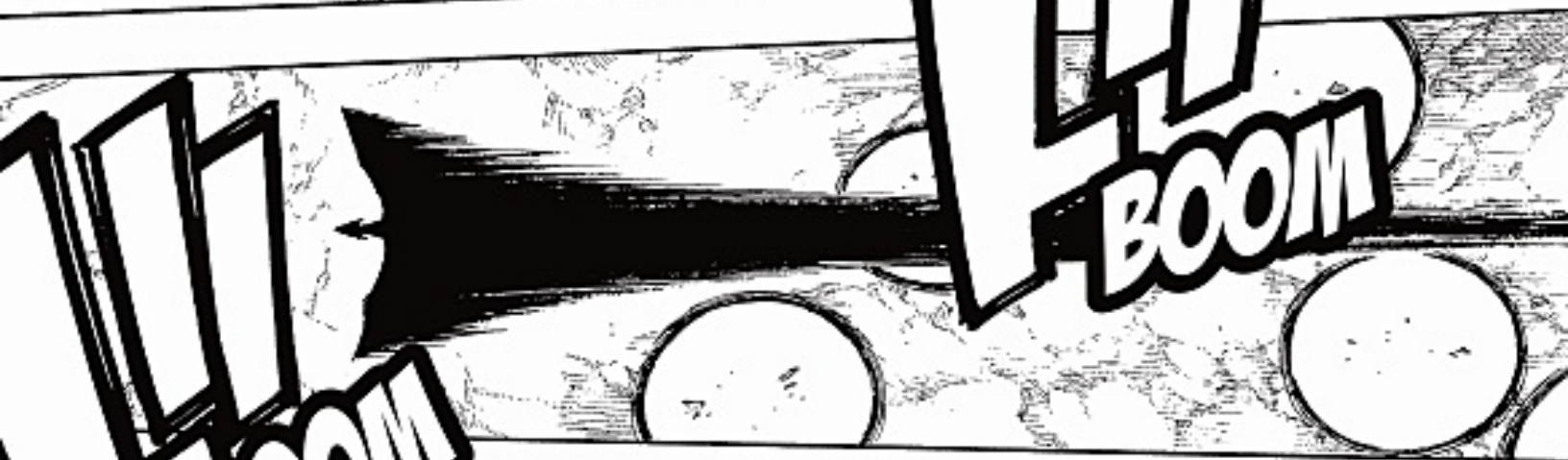
The
dragons
have been
released!



Is Skia-
dram
out there
some-
where?



I'm sensing
Weisslogia...
but he
should be
dead!





BOOM

BOOM

They're
soaring
through the
skies of
Ishgal!!!!

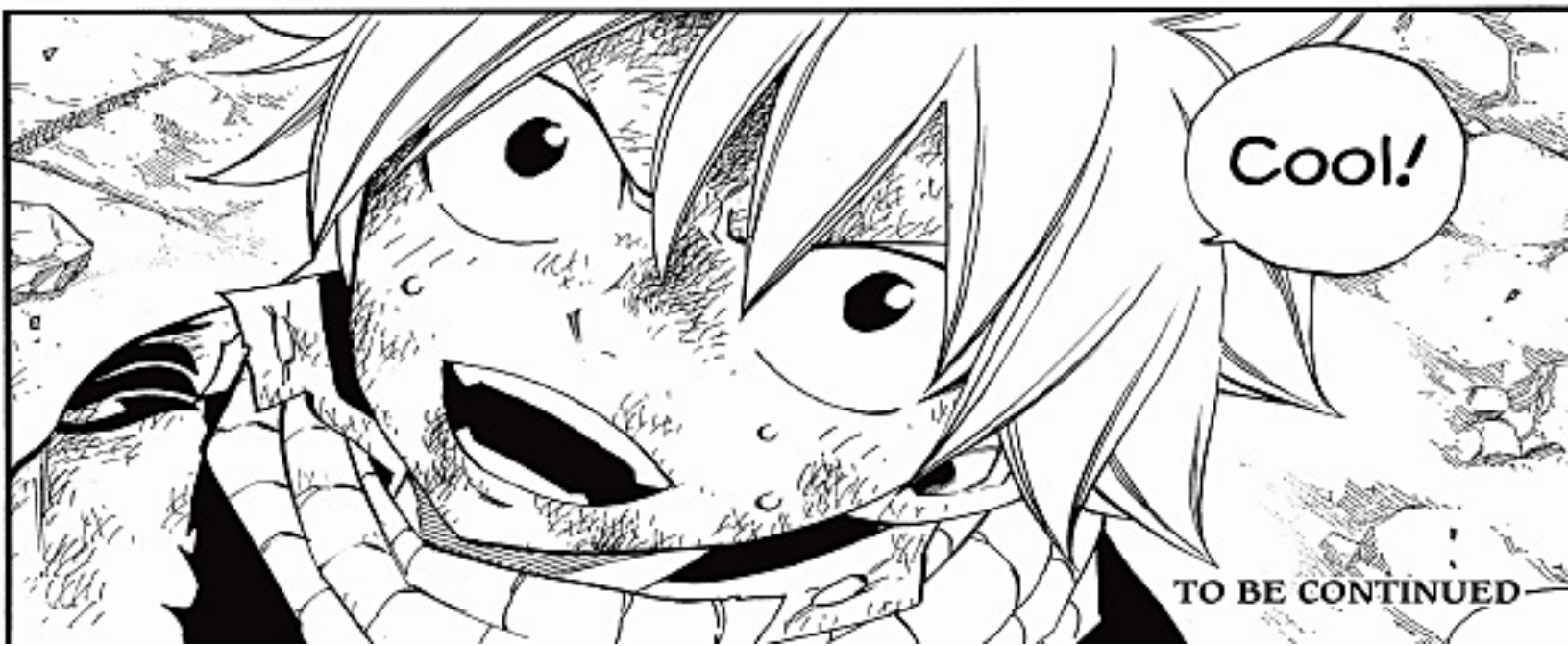
BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM

BOOM



TO BE CONTINUED

おとがき

Afterword

When a series has gone on this long, I think the readers start to get favorites and most hated characters, lots of them! Every series, I make a decision on which characters get the best parts advancing the plot, but as I'm drawing it, I am constantly asked if I could show more of this character, or give that character a more pivotal role.

Still, I'm happy with the sentiment, and I ask you to realize that if the central characters don't get the biggest part in this story, they'll get it in the next one.

On a different topic, There are a lot of characters in this manga, and I do make an effort to make sure that when I name a character, it won't be confused with any of the other characters. But I just messed up. In Volume 43, there was a character, Elder Yuri who was killed by Tartaros, but in the other continuing series I have right now, Fairy Tail Zero, there is Makarov's father Yuri...**CONFUSION!!!!** Nobody, not the editor, staff, nor myself ever noticed! It just happened.

＼(^o^)／。

In all of our daily lives, it isn't very unusual to have at least two people you know have the same name, but in a story, avoiding that is really one of the rules. Once I noticed that I'd done it, I considered for a second whether I could make that Yuri the same character as Elder Yuri, but **SINCE THEY LOOK NOTHING ALIKE**, I realized that it was impossible, and I quickly gave up on that idea. So in the end, they're different Yuris. They just happen to have had the same name. D-Dammit...!

Fairy Tail

フェアリーテイル

48



Thanks for
coming today!!

Thanks!

2.7.2015

Hiro
NASHIMA.



Thank you
so much for
coming!

2.7.2015

Hiro
NASHIMA.

HIRO 真島ヒロ NASHIMA

These were drawn originally for cards that were handed out at a fan event.



Hey, you
came, today!
Thanks!

2.7.2015

Hoto
NASHIMA.



My appreciation
for your timely
arrival this day.

2.7.2015

Hoto
NASHIMA.



I'm so happy that
you made it here
today! Thank you
very much!

2.7.2015

Hoto
NASHIMA.

FROM HIRO MASHIMA



For some reason, I want to stick Plue into a bottle. A long time ago, I wrote a manga with a character who wanted to stick Plue into a bottle, but the character was a mystery, and I didn't know why the character wanted Plue in the bottle. But I suddenly wanted to stick Plue into a bottle myself, so I wound up drawing this picture. It's a mystery.

Original Jacket Design: Hisao Ogawa

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



Page 122, Ashiginu

Ashiginu is generally considered to be a variety of silk thread that is coarse and thick, used for relatively less expensive silk garments. There are different varieties, such as *mino ashiginu*, which is fine, thin expensive silk thread. So although the word gives the impression of inexpensive, coarse silk, the actual definition of the word is hard to pin down.

Page 132, Der Yggdrasil

Yggdrasil is the Tree of Life out of old Norse mythology. The tree connects many different worlds. And according to the myths, the three Norns, past, present, and future, would weave people's fates at the base of Yggdrasil. How does this relate to Mard Geer's attack? Well, Yggdrasil had roots that stretched down to water sources in other worlds. Perhaps that's where the attack name came from.

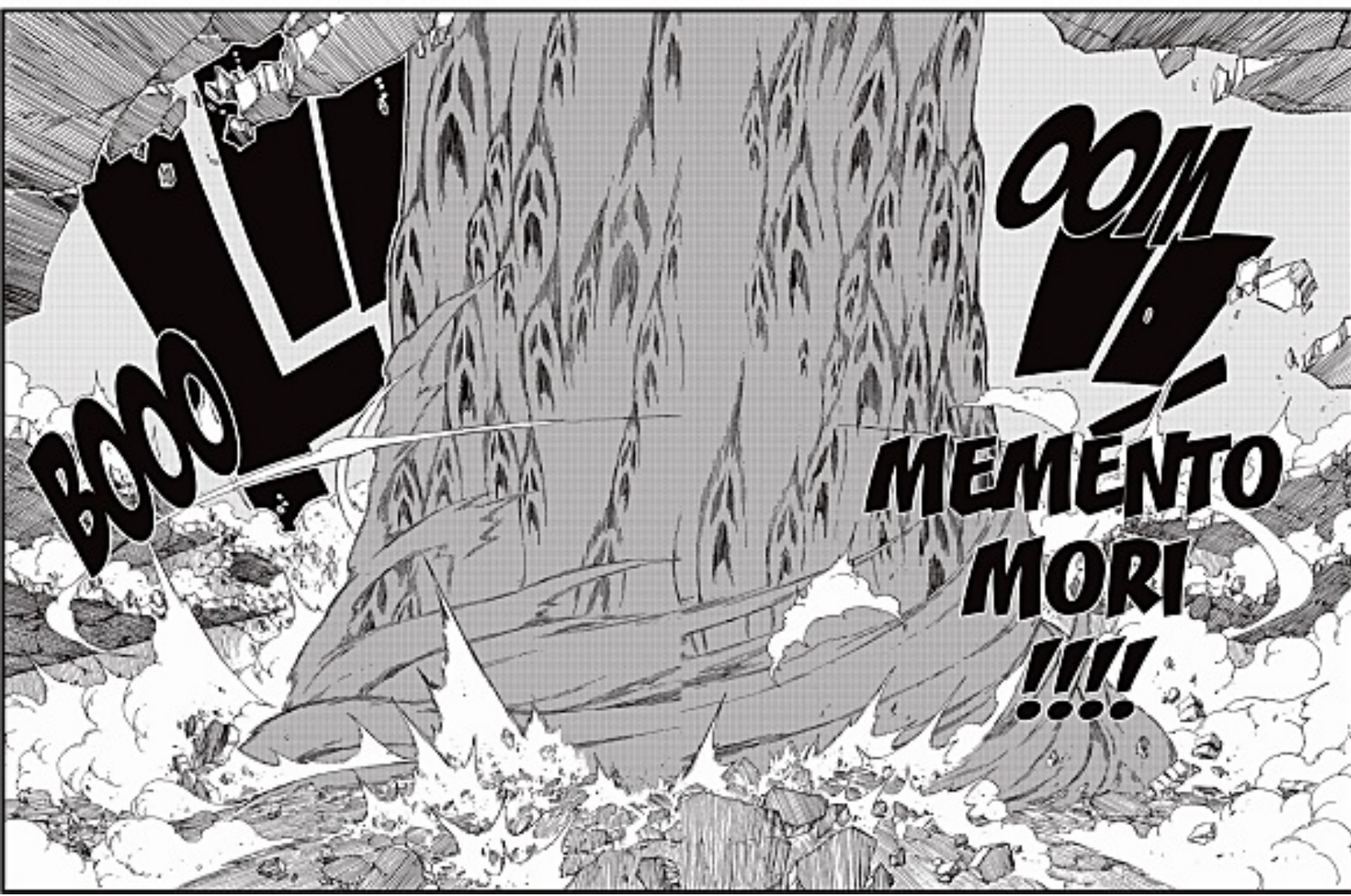


Page 135, Gungnir

Sticking with the Norse mythology theme (see Der Yggdrasil above), Gungnir is the name of Odin's spear. According to certain legends, it was made by dwarves and has the powers to always hit its mark and always return to Odin's hand. Reportedly, the Ring of the Nibelung saga has the wood of the spear being taken from Yggdrasil.

Page 142, Memento Mori

Memento mori, Latin for "remember death," is a phrase meant to inspire reflection upon the fact that you can't "take it with you." The concept has influenced art, literature and philosophy, especially in medieval Europe, but it also found reflections in other cultures, especially the Buddhist cultures of the Far East for which the transience of life is an important philosophical point.



Shiranui-gata

As mentioned in the notes for Volume 20, *Shiranui* means sea fire or bioluminescence, but *shiranui-gata* is a term for one of the displays that sumo wrestlers use when entering the ring.



Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 49

We're pleased to present you with a preview from *Fairy Tail*,

volume 49, coming July 2015. See our website

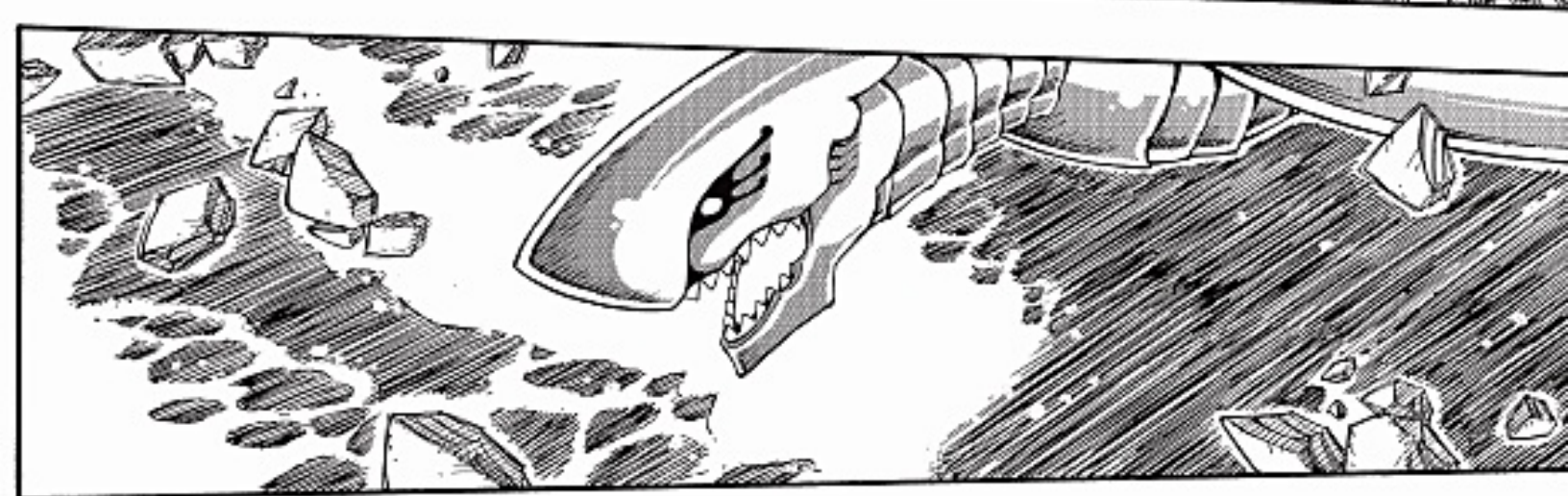
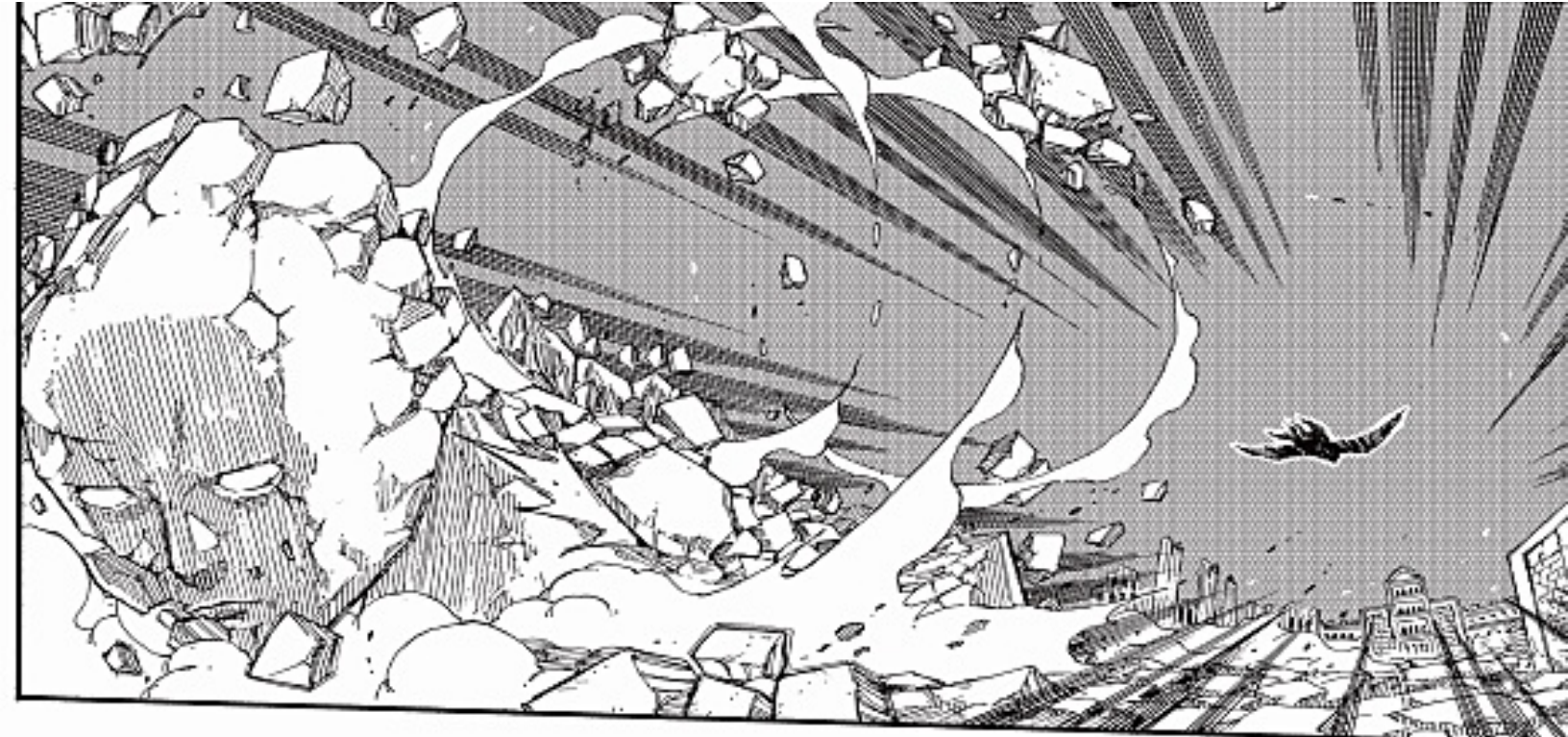
(www.kodanshacomics.com) for more details!

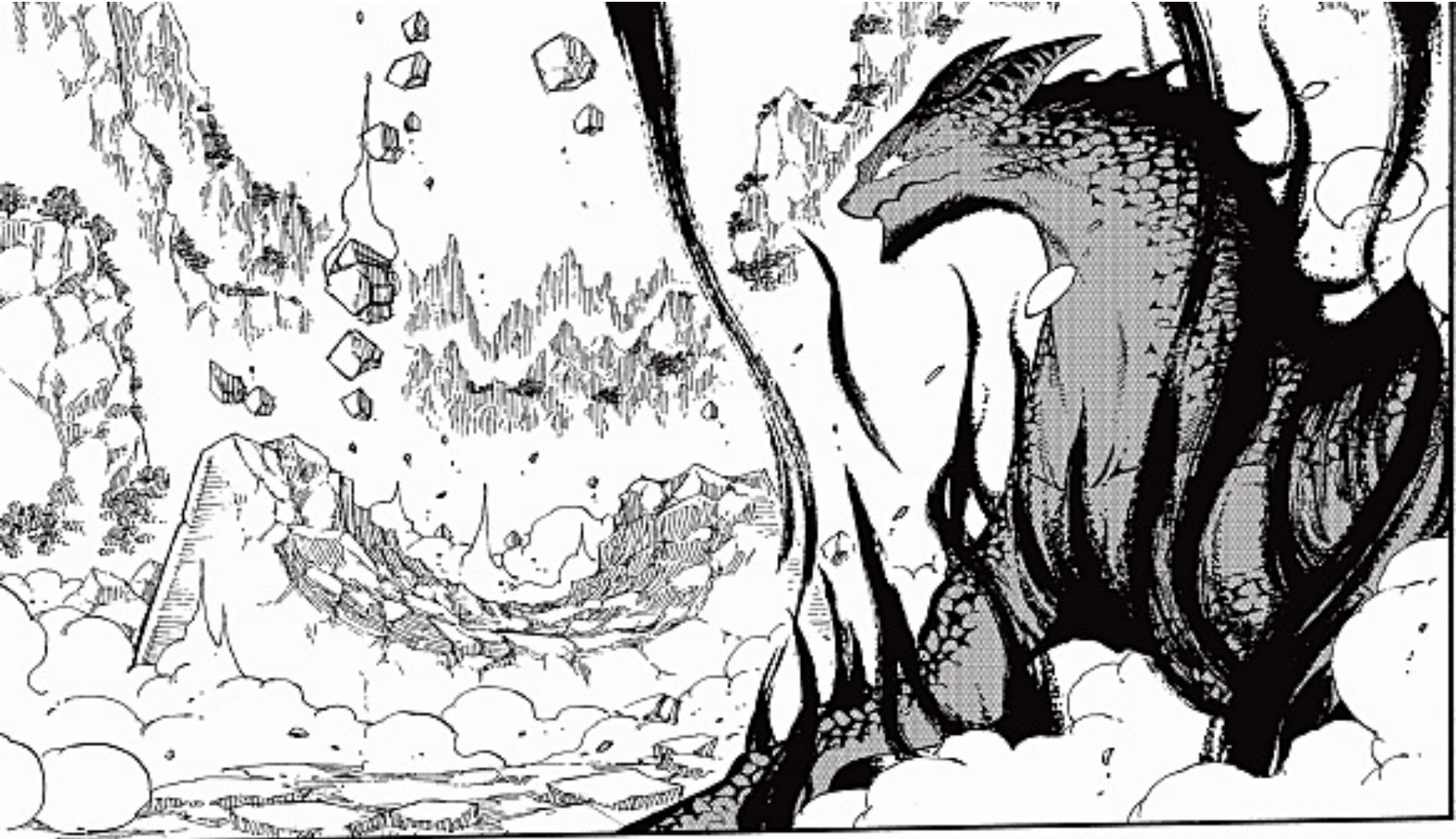
FAIRY TAIL

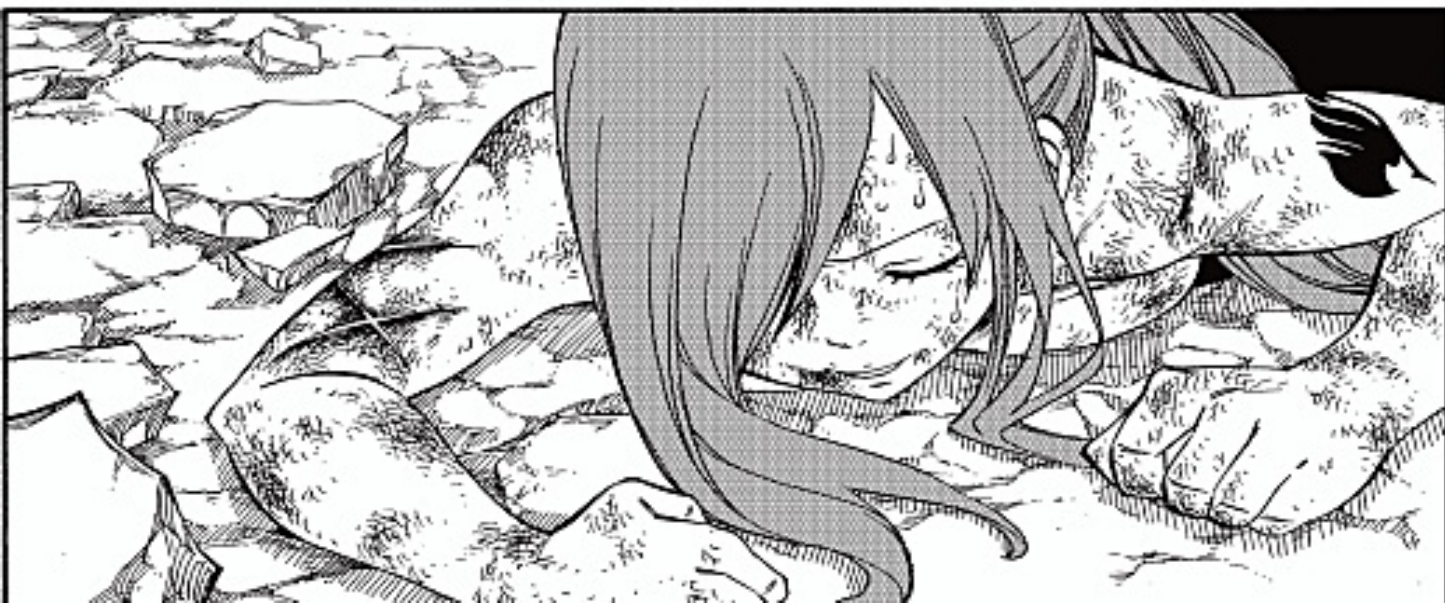
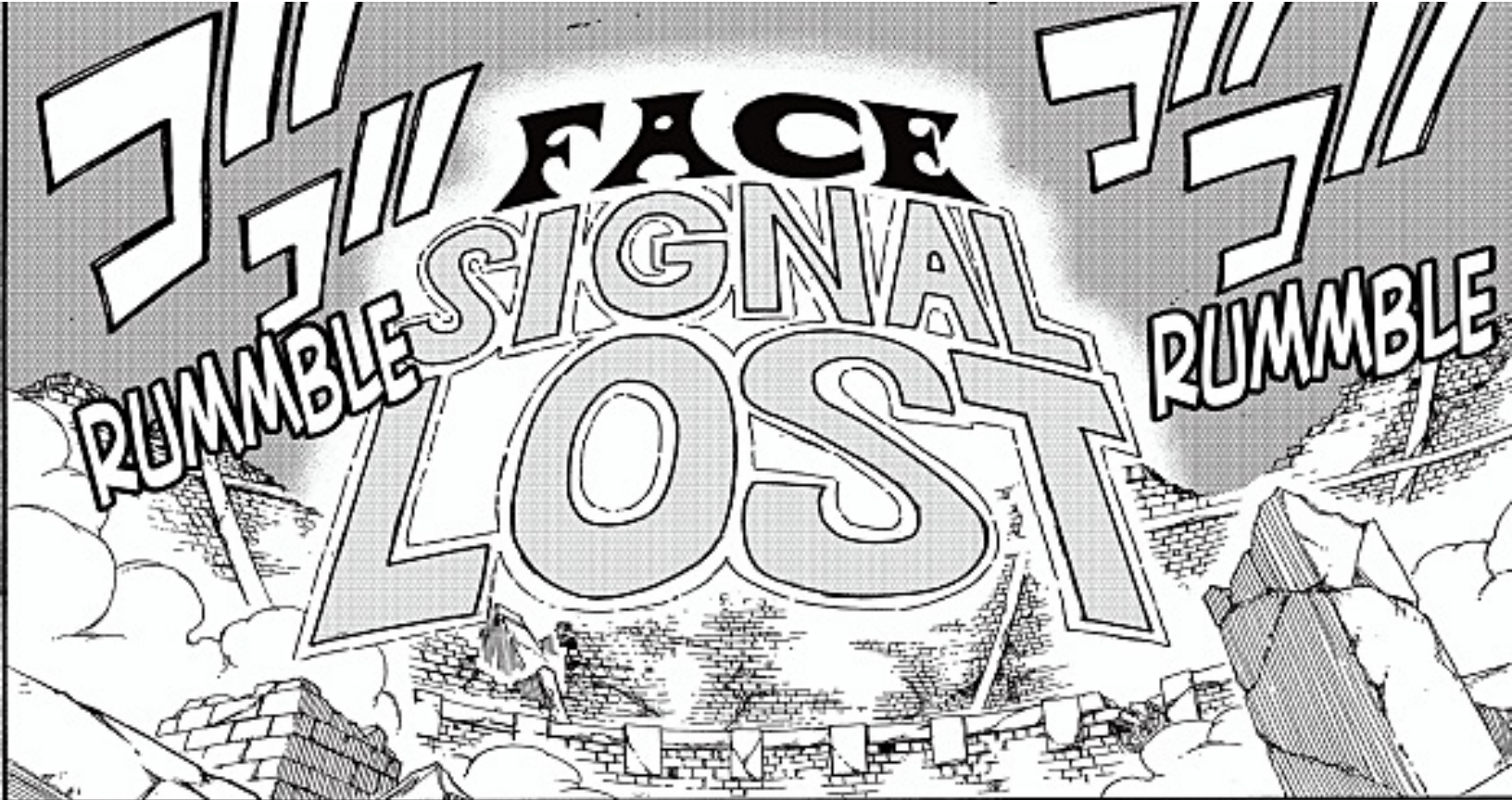
フェアリーテイル

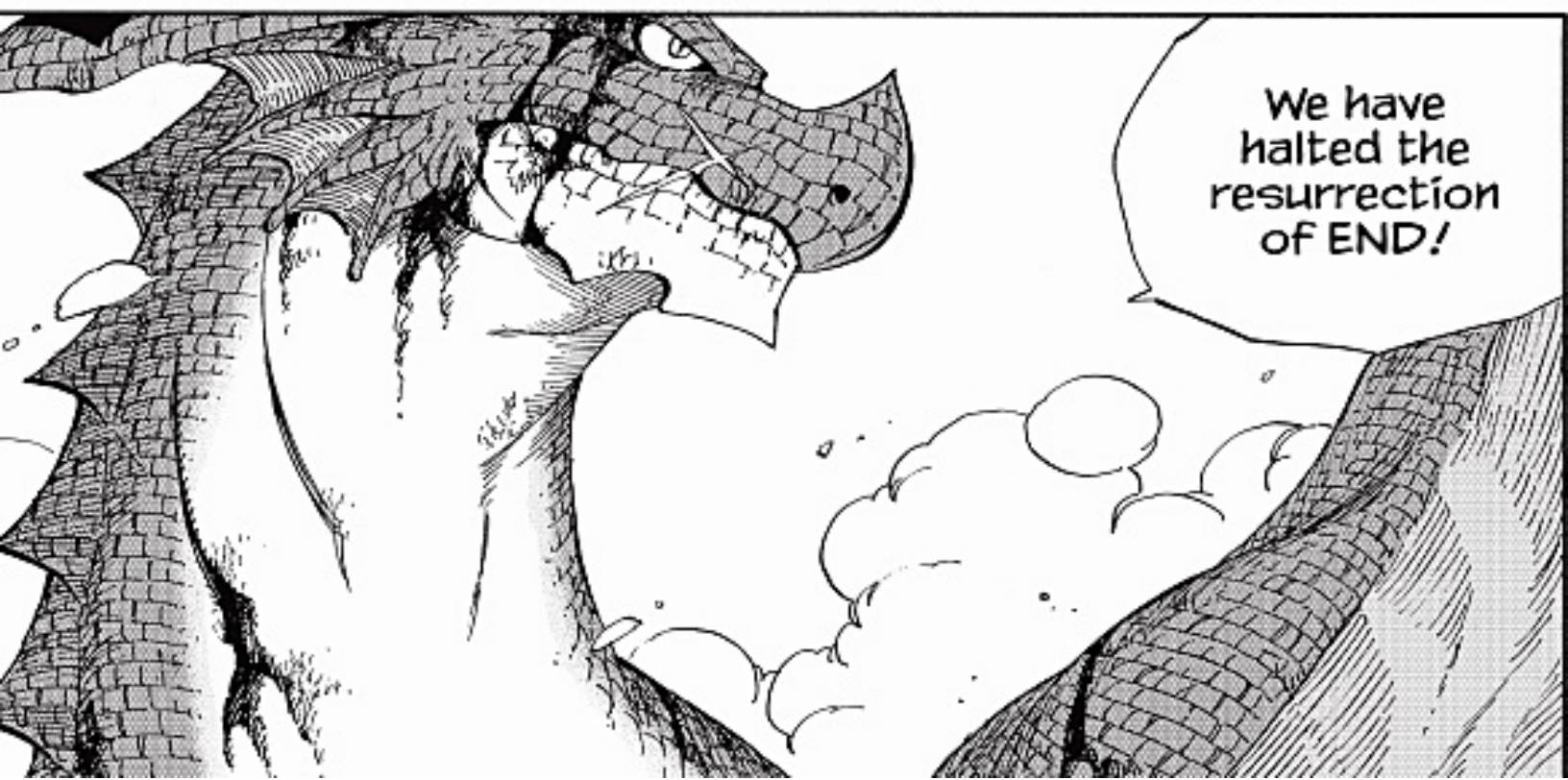
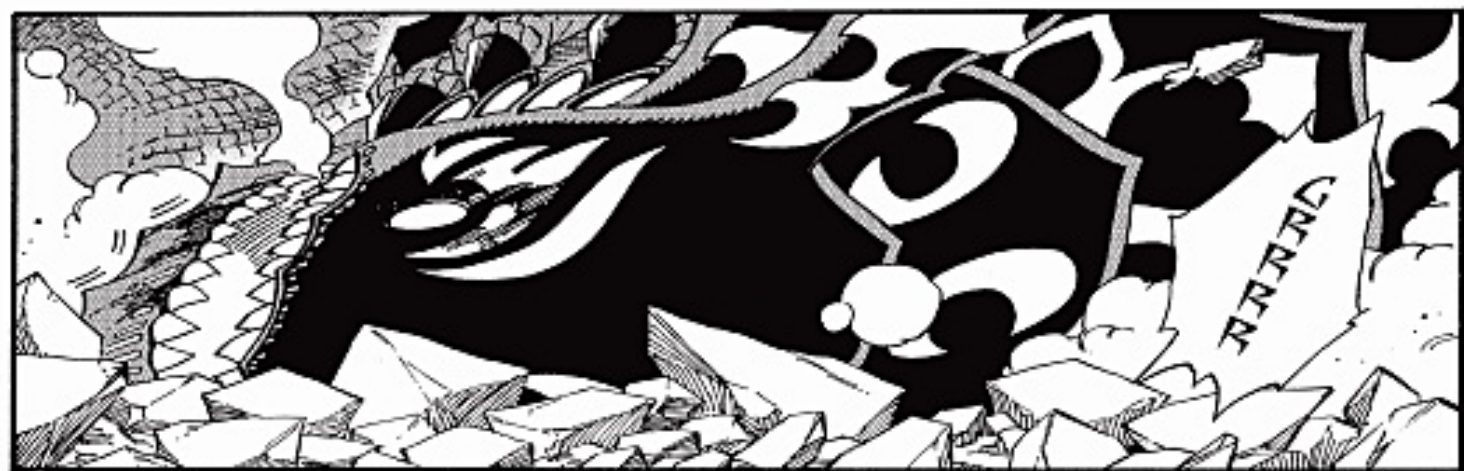
Chapter 413: The Tome of END



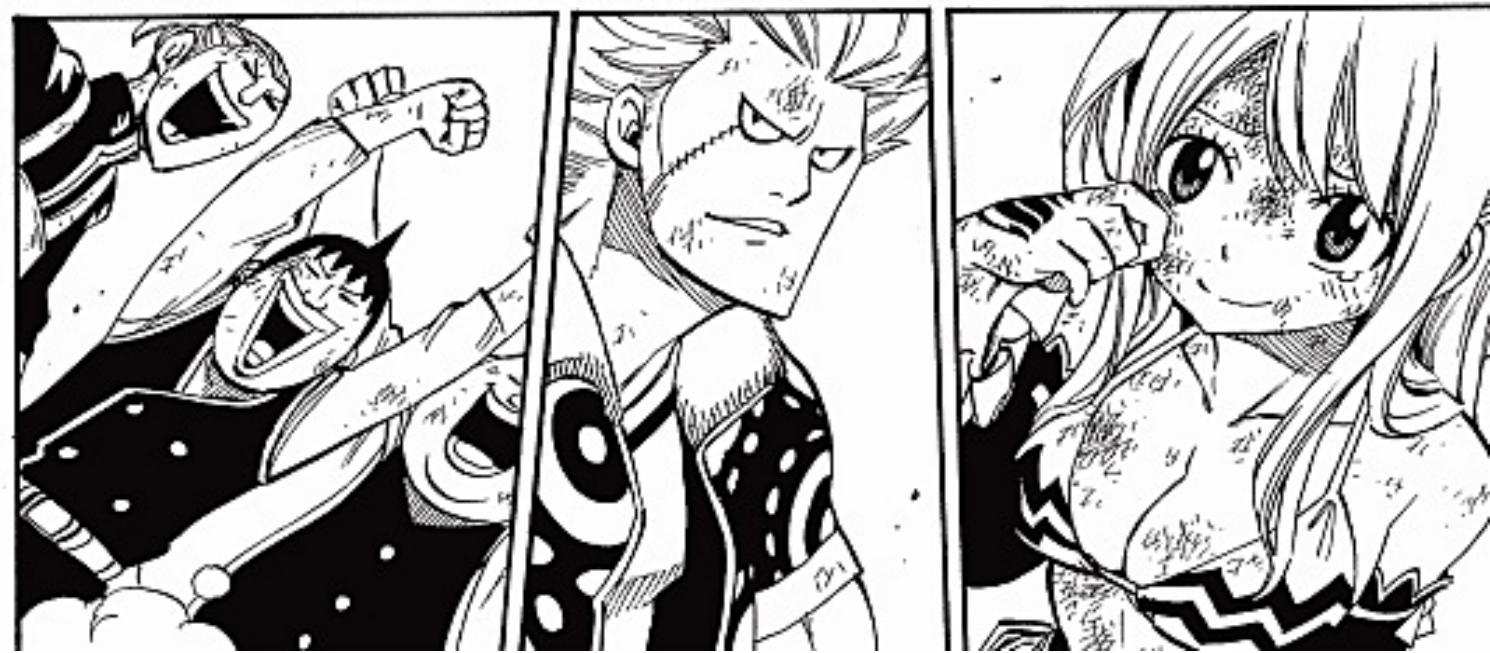
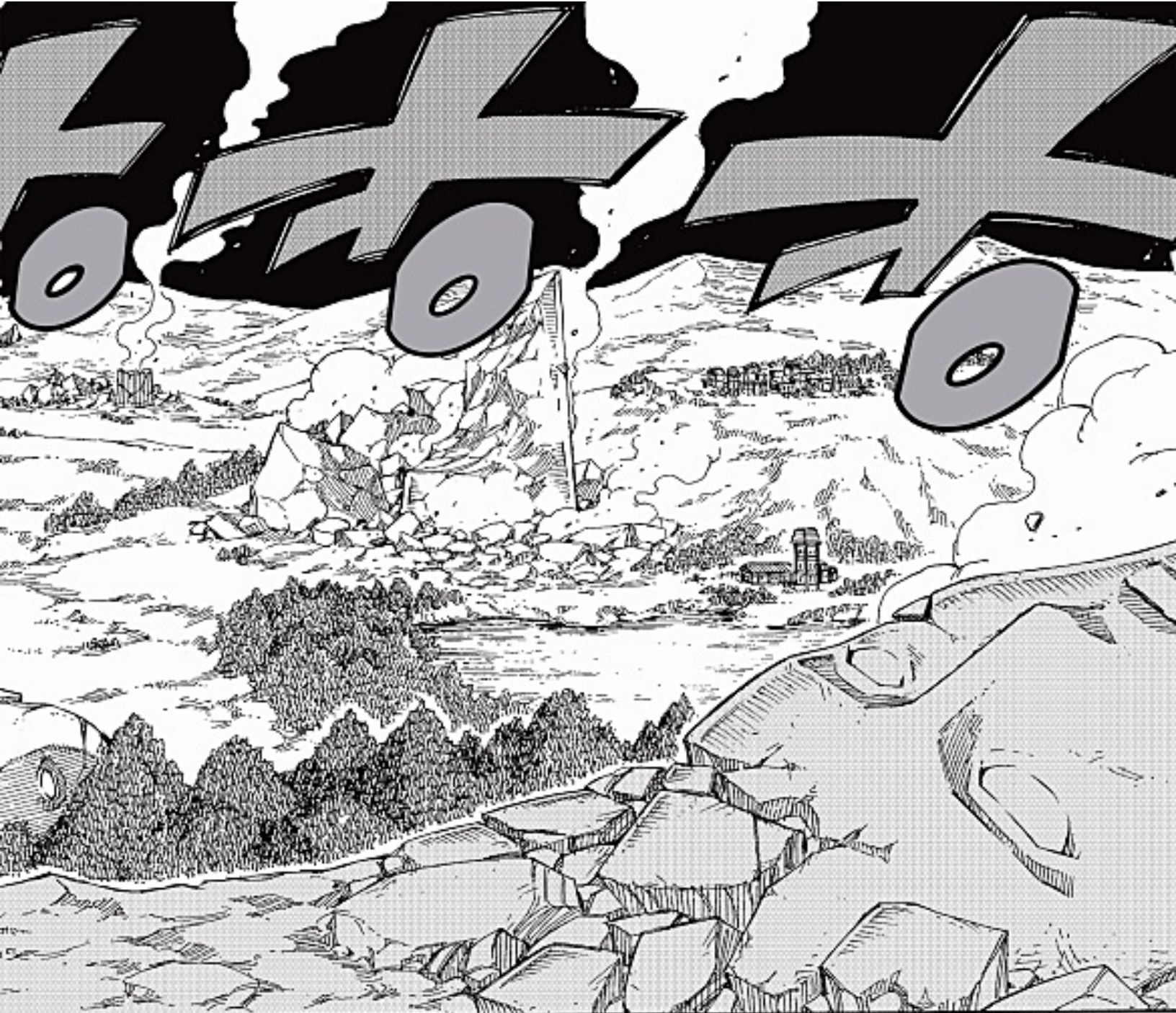














Fairy Tail volume 48 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Kodansha Comics Trade Paperback Original.

Fairy Tail volume 48 copyright © 2015 Hiro Mashima
English translation copyright © 2015 Hiro Mashima

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2015 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo
ISBN 978-1-61262-819-6

Printed in the United States of America.

www.kodanshacomics.com

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translation: William Flanagan

Lettering: AndWorld Design

Editing: Ben Applegate

Kodansha Comics edition cover design by Phil Balsman

TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different
type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!